ESTABLISHED 1818.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,541—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY :—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1899.

PETER F. HEERING'S
COPENHAGEN
CHERRY BRANDY.
Sold by all respectable Wine Merchants.

Milkmaid BRAND
LARGEST SALE in the WORLD.
Milk

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE
WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1899.
* EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	11th Feb.
M.L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheler	25th "
* CLYDE	6029	A. Symons	4th Mar.
M.L. EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	11th "
* CARTHAGE	5196	C. Gadd	18th "
M.L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Partis	25th "
* CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	1st April
M.L. CARTHAGE	5196	C. Gadd	8th "
CLYDE	6029	A. Symons	15th "
M.L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	22nd "
* SHANNON	4392	F. Cole	29th "
M.L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheler	6th May.
CLYDE	6029	A. Symons	13th "
M.L. EGYPT	7913	G. Langbourne	20th "
* SHANNON	4392	F. Cole	27th "

The steamers marked M.L. proceed to Marseilles, Plymouth and London. Passengers for Brindisi transhipping at Port Said.

The Steamers marked * proceed to Aden only, and Passengers transhipping here for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

Heavy Baggage must be sent to the Ballard Pier before 9 A.M. on the day of sailing.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier at noon on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place by 11-30 a.m. for medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's steam barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage labelled with Port of Destination.

TO STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports en route.

For further particulars apply to

I. M. SHIELDS,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 15th November, 1898.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

AUSTRIAN UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain	Tons	To sail on
IMPERATRIX	G. Nicolich	4,212	1st Mar. 1899.
EMPEROR	....	4,139	1st April 1899.
* BERENICE	G. Andrevich	2,619	15th April 1899.
IMPERATRIX	G. Nicolich	4,212	1st May 1899.

* SALOON passage Rs. 375.

PASSAGE MONEY.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 600	Rs. 325	Rs. 150

TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
VINDOBONA	C. Bellen	4,351	16th Feb., 1899.
GISELA	F. Mosca	4,253	7th March 1899.
TRIESTE	A. Milas	5,085	7th April 1899.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TO TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 375	Rs. 150

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Available for 6 months	Rs. 960	Rs. 575
Available for 12 months	" 1,060	" 625

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards, and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return Voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co. at reduced fares.

This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on three months' privilege leave.

Steamers leave TRIESTE for BOMBAY direct on the 3rd and three via KURRACHEE on the 23rd of each month.

Passengers to VENICE transhipped at TRIESTE to another Company's steamer, which takes about 6 hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONG-KONG, SHANGHAI, AND KOBE.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
MARIA VALERIE	A. Fellner	4,235	1st March, 1899.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage, &c., apply to

E. SCARPA, Agent,
Sassoon House, 52, Church Gate Street, Bombay, Feb. 14, 1899.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT.

VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Tuesday, 12 noon.
TONKIN	6,000	Vaquier	14th Mar. 1899
CALEDONIEN	4,232	Durrande	11th Apr. 1899
YARRA	4,285	X	9th May, 1899
GLAZIE	4,355	Negre	6th June 1899
LAOS	6,357	Plandin	4th July 1899
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	1st Aug. 1899

Passengers are requested to ATTEND at the BALLARD PIER for the MEDICAL EXAMINATION at 10 a.m. All luggage, properly Addressed and Labelled, should be sent to the Steamer in the Stream the day before, or early on the morning of the day of Sailing.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail on or about the
ERNEST SIMONS	5,707	X	9th March 1899.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to

C. RUINAT, Agent.
Old Oriental Bank Buildings, 57, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co., BOMBAY,
GRINDLAY & Co.,
CALCUTTA,
BANKERS AND AGENTS.

PASSAGES booked without charge, and on favourable terms. Berths carefully selected.
SLEEPING Car and CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.
TEA PLANTERS, RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, booked at reduced rates.
PASSAGES booked to ENGLAND *viâ* JAPAN and AMERICA, by the Canadian Pacific Occidental and Oriental and Pacific Mail Routes.
HANDBOOK giving details of Fares, &c., and of Sailings by all Lines sent FREE on application.
PASSENGERS met on arrival.
BAGGAGE shipped and cleared and Insurance effected covering all risks.
PACKAGES cleared or shipped.
CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS and SOVEREIGNS at current rates.

London Agents: GRINDLAY & CO.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows :—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "KOLA," 1,192 tons, on the 17th February, at 2 p. m., or later, on arrival of the English Mail.

FOR KURRACHEE AND COAST PORTS.

S. S. "DUMRA," 1,695 tons, on the 21st February, at 10 a.m., calling at Veraval, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie. (Weather permitting.)

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "KHANDALLA," 2,040 tons, at 10 a. m., on the 18th February, calling at Kurrachee, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Busreh, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR ADEN, MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR AND LAMOO.

S. S. "CANARA," 1,902 tons, on or about 20th February.

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "SIRDHANA," 2,729 tons, on or about 18th February, calling at Seychelles, Mombasa, and Zanzibar, in the foregoing or any order.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "CHYEBASSA," 2,663 tons on or about 24th February.

FOR COCHIN AND RANGOON.

S. S. "CAMORTA," 2,119 tons, on or about 18th February.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOLD FIELDS.

PASSENGERS and Cargo booked through from Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, or Rangoon *vis* Singapore for all ports adjacent to the various Gold Fields. Fortnightly departures from Singapore.

For further particulars apply to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
Agents.
Bombay, 14th February, 1899.

KING, KING & CO.,

BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS, BOMBAY.

PASSAGES engaged by P. & O. and all Steamers at the lowest rates obtainable free of charge or Commission.

Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

Special attention paid to the grouping of those wishing to travel 2nd Class, P. & O. Every assistance rendered to Passengers arriving in Bombay for embarkation. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and shipped.

THROUGH RAILWAY TICKETS from any Station in India to Bombay, and Tickets for all Continental Routes furnished on application.

SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.

PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., London; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance effected at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.,
CALCUTTA.

HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA

SOCIETA RIUNITE FLORIO RUBATTINO.

BOMBAY to NAPLES and GENOA.
Calling at ALEXANDRIA for BRINDISI and VENICE.

Vessels.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on.
S. S. SINGAPORE	E. Pizzarelo	5,000	2nd March

Rates to Naples, Genoa, Brindisi, or Venice :—

1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class
Rs. 550	Rs. 325	Rs. 150.

RETURN TICKETS TO THE ABOVE PORTS :—

1st CLASS.—Strictly within three months, Rs. 750, six months, Rs. 900, nine months, Rs. 925, and twelve months Rs. 950.

Passengers have the option of going via Venice and returning via Genoa or vice-versa, and can break their journey at any port, resuming it by subsequent steamers of Bombay or other Weekly and Daily Local Lines.

Through and Return Tickets to London on application.

S.S. "BISAGNO" from BOMBAY to HONGKONG, calling at Singapore on the 28th February, 1899.

For Freights and Passage, &c., apply to

F. BALDOVINO, Agent.
Sassoon House, Elphinstone Circle, Bombay, Feb. 6, 1899.

WILLIAM WATSON AND CO.,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS

BOMBAY—8, Hornby Road.
CALCUTTA—24, Council House Street.
KARACHI—Bunder Road.
LONDON—7, Waterloo Place, S.W.
LIVERPOOL—32, Water Street.
PORT SAID—8, Quay Francois Joseph.

PASSAGE SEASON 1897.

PASSAGES secured by P. O., the other LINERS and all NON-LINERS, at lowest rates. No COMMISSION charged.

SELECTED NON-LINERS to Continent and England from Rs. 200.

REGISTER kept for BOOKINGS in advance.

"SOCIAL GROUPING." Special care exercised in this.

LIST of all SAILINGS, with details, furnished promptly.

REDUCTIONS for FAMILIES and PARTIES.

SPECIAL reductions for MISSIONARIES and RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

PASSAGES from any PART of the WORLD arranged through our several HOUSES and AGENCIES.

CONTINENTAL RAIL TICKETS arranged.

PASSENGERS met at Railway Stations and conducted on Board or to Hotels.

PARCELS and HEAVY GOODS shipped to any part of the world.

BAGGAGE and CARGO CLEARED, DESPATCHED and INSURED.

DUTY and all CHARGES prepaid, if desired.

SMALL PARCELS enclosed in our Regular PARCEL CASES.

SOLDIERS' HEAVY BOXES shipped to any address CHEAPLY.

TROOPSHIP BAGGAGE shipped. Horses and Dogs shut but from same forwarded economically.

SOLE AGENTS AT BOMBAY FOR
MESSRS. CURTISS AND SONS,
TROOPSHIP AGENTS,
PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON.

MENIST'S SPECTACLES.
MARCKS & CO.'S SPECTACLES.

WE beg to bring to the notice of the SPECTACLE wearing community, our following revised PRICE LIST :—

Menist's Spectacles.	Gold. Rs.	Silver Rs.	Steel. Rs.
With Turupin Sides	60	28	16
With Single temple Sides	50	24	16
Solders	50	24	16

Spectacles and Folders as above but fitted with Marcks and Co.'s Pebbles, Rs. 5 reduction on Gold and Silver, and Rs. 4 reduction on steel. The new Solid and Steel "Moviliette" Frames, fitted with Menist's or Marcks' Pebbles, prices as above.

All the newest patterns in Frames always in stock.

REPAIRS EXECUTED by the most EXPERIENCED WORKMEN at reasonable rates. OCULISTS PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY PREPARED.

SPECIAL.

Our celebrated, VIOLET TINTED, SUN, GLARE and DUST GLASSES are invaluable to people who suffer from the extreme glare of a tropical climate. May be purchased in either Steel, Nickel, Silver or Gold Frames, Japanese cups, nickel gauze cups, Straight with folding sides, folders and Globular Spectacles, from Rs. 5 per pair.

MARCKS & Co., LD.,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

SPORTING GUNS, RIFLES AND REVOLVERS.
TREACHER & CO., LD.,

SPORTING SEASON, 1899.

INVITE attention to their Fine Stock of Guns, Rifles and Requisites for Sportsmen. These are imported from the first English Houses, and are of the very best workmanship and finish. The Lee-Metford and all the latest Patterns of Magazine Rifles are kept in Stock, together with a very extensive Assortment of Hammerless, Ejector, and other Guns. Ammunition of all kinds can be supplied, and a speciality is made of Shot Cartridges, which are loaded on the FIELD System with SCHULTZE'S or other Powders, at the option of Customers, without Extra Charge.

SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED LISTS ON APPLICATION.

BOMBAY. BYCULLA. POONA.

STORES AND GROCERIES

ROYAN'S A LA BORDELAISE
DO. A LA VATEL

Truffles, Morceaux, pieces for cooking purpose.
Jams, manufactured from choice fruits grown on the Himalayas.

ALL KINDS OF FRENCH STORES.

ITALIAN HAZEL NUTS.....As. 12 per lb.
Do Chestnuts.....As. 8 per lb.

SUPERIOR MARSEILLES SALAD OIL. This Olive Oil is guaranteed the best, pure and without mixture.

FELICE CORNAGLIA,

83, MEDOWS STREET, BOMBAY.
EAST STREET, POONA.

DEBILITY OF EVERY KIND and from any cause can be successfully mastered and eventually cured by the use of

KEMP'S PERFECT VITAL INVIGORATOR.

a combination of the FINEST TONIC DRUGS and chemicals known including

DAMIANA, PHOSPHORUS and COCOA.

Its curative powers give it a remarkable command in all cases of Nervous Waste, Exhaustion brain-fag, etc., and it is very Valuable Remedy for the use of business men who are always liable to "run down" and get "below-par" in the Indian Climate—Pleasant in flavour, it may be taken as a liqueur after meals.

A SAFEGUARD AND REMEDY IN ONE.

Rs. 3 per Bottle.

KEMP & CO., LD., BOMBAY.

SPECIALTY.

KEMP'S AERATED WATERS ARE PREPARED

Under highly SANITARY CONDITIONS and from the FINEST MATERIALS.

PERFECTLY FILTERFD WATER and ABSOLUTELY CLEAN BOTTLES

Only are used—and every precaution is taken to secure

DRINKS OF THE FINEST FLAVOURS OF FULL and UNIFORM STRENGTH and of the HIGHEST POSSIBLE STANDARD of QUALITY.

SODA-POTASH and ÆRATED WATERS	Per Dozen 12 annas.
All other kinds, SWEET and MEDICATED	Re. 1

DELIVERED FREE in Town.
6 Dozen PACKED FREE for Steamer or Rail transit.

KEMP & CO., LD., BOMBAY.

FOR FINE FRAGRANCE AND DELICATE TASTE,

COMBINED with perfect cleansing, antiseptic and purifying properties.

KEMP'S FLORAL MOUTH ELIXIR

holds the first position as a PERFECT DENTIFRICE and MOUTH WASH.

It should find a place upon the toilet of every person of REFINED TASTE.

Highly refreshing in use and most desirable when travelling—suitable for Ladies, Gentlemen and Children.

Rs. 1-4 and 2-4 per Bottle.

KEMP & CO., LD., BOMBAY.

NO. WHISKEY in the INDIAN MARKET SURPASSES KEMP'S EDINA,

a blend of PURE OLD HIGHLAND MALT—at a Moderate Price, yet of IDEAL FLAVOUR and FRAGRANCE.

This WHISKEY has been before the Indian Public for many years and is recognised as of Sterling merit. It can be taken without fear of unpleasant after-effects.

Rs. 2-12 per Bottle.
Rs. 31-8 per Dozen.

KEMP & CO., LD., BOMBAY.

R. SCOTT & CO., M. R. C. V. S.,

VETERINARY AND COMMISSION STABLES
Girgaum, and 223, Bellasis Road, Byculla.

CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses Selected for Local and Up-country Consignments. Horses Shod on the most approved principles under Personal Supervision.

Horses broken to single (Rs. 15), and double Harness (Rs.) and Saddle (Rs. 15), Raw Walers Charged extra.

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Horses standing at Livery, on Commission Sale, or for treatment including Syce per mensem	35
Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	17
Examination and Certificate	10
Verbal opinion as to Soundness	5

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J. NEUBERG,
51, ESPLANADE ROAD,
BOMBAY.

CIGARS AND CHEROOTS,
Indian and Foreign.

EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES
of Finest Qualities.

SMOKING TOBACCOS
of All Brands.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS,
Dry Plates, Developers, &c.,
Cameras, Hand and Stand; Lenses.
All the latest in the trade.

BENTWOOD FURNITURE,
Best Makers and Newest Shapes.

DECK CHAIRS,
With and without Leg Rests.

TABLE LINEN,
TOWELS, SHEETING, &c.
(Sole Agent, Basle Mission.)

FUEL & KEROSINE OIL
COOKING STOVES,
Latest Patterns with all necessary equipment.

FISHING TACKLE
From Hardy Bros. of Alnwick.

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By Leading Artists, Plain and Tinted.

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From Steward (London) and other Makers.

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51, ESPLANADE ROAD,
OPPOSITE BOMBAY CLUB.

PRISMATIC BINOCULAR GLASSES.

GOERZ—TRIEDER—BINOCULARS.

WONDERFUL EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NEW GLASSES.

EVEN as abstrusity was the delight of the olden time alchemist, so is utilitarianism the creed of the latter-day scientist, whose every effort in the field of research is made with the object of bringing into the ken of the outer world some new truth, some item of knowledge worth applying to the practical requirements of everyday life. Among the most useful of these applications of science that have recently come to the front are the prismatic Binocular Glasses that have recently been invented in Germany, and which transcend any of the Old-Fashioned Glasses almost as far as the great Yerkes Telescope excels the monster Glass that Lord Rosse built when he pioneered the field in giant lenses. Of course it is understood that the primary object of any Telescope combination is to obtain a clear image of objects, and at the same time to magnify the image so formed sufficiently to enable its details to be observed without effort. A good telescope or field glass capable of producing a distinct image should therefore possess a large and well-illuminated field and suitable magnifying power. These necessary conditions are fulfilled in an eminent degree by the Goerz-Trieder-Binoculars introduced into India by Messrs. Marcks & Co., Ltd., Bombay. They are the result of long and exhaustive calculations and experiments, and their optical and mechanical perfection and great portability will commend them to everyone whose profession, business or pastime necessitates the frequent use of a really good bincoular glass.

MARCKS AND CO., LIMITED,
OPTICIANS,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

THE DOG TONIC.

COMPOUND SYRUP OF CHIRETTA.

This syrup has been proved to be a most valuable remedy for dogs suffering from fever, or from debility caused by distemper. It is a most excellent tonic and antiperiodic. Dose—For small dogs, one to two teaspoonfuls; for medium and large dogs, from two teaspoonfuls to one tablespoonful every three hours ... ... per bot. Rs.—1-4

PREPARED ONLY BY

PHILLIPS & Co., Ld.

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE "BAHADUR"

CATALOGUE.

"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS BRAND.

THE "BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS"

Brand is the latest addition to our List. They are packed in

Boxes of 100, each Cigar being Ringed with a "BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS" Ring.

"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS" Extra large 5 inches, Rs. 37-8.

"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS," No. 1, 4½ in., Rs. 31-6.	"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS," No. 3, 3½ in., Rs. 27-8.
"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS," No. 2, 4 in., Rs. 29-0.	"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS," No. 4, 3 in., Rs. 24-0.

PACKED in BOXES of 50, at an extra charge of Re. 1 per 1,000.

PACKED in BOXES of 25, at an extra charge of Rs. 2 per 1,000.

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McDOWELL & CO., LD.,
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THACKER & CO., LD., BOMBAY.

The Most Popular Atlases ever Published.

THE CITIZEN'S ATLAS, Rs. 14-0.

120 Maps and Plans, with Gazetteer and Geographical Text.

BY J. G. BARTHOLOMEW, F. R. S. E, F. R. G. S.

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This Atlas illustrates all the Geographical Questions of the Day.

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An Introduction giving an account of Geographical Discovery and Political Territorial changes in the Nineteenth Century.

BY DR. J. SCOTT KELTIE,

SECRETARY OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

Two Frontispieces—The Flags of all Nations, and the Time of all Nations.

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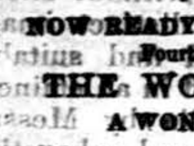

S.S. "HIROSHIMA MARU," Capt. S. Tsuji, 3276 Tons, will sail for TUTICORIN, SINGAPORE, CHINA and JAPAN on the 23rd instant.

For freight and passage apply to

T. KUSUMOTO, Manager.

Victoria Buildings, Fort, Bombay, 14th February, 1899.

THE BOMBAY ICE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 18, Shaik Munzil, Hummum Street, Fort, on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd February, 1899, at 3 p.m., to transact the following business—

1. To receive and adopt the Directors' Report and Audited Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1898.
2. To sanction the payment of a Dividend.
3. To elect a Director in the place of the one who retires by rotation, but who is eligible for re-election.
4. To elect a Chairman of the Board for the ensuing year.
5. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year and fix their remuneration.
6. To transact any other business the Chairman may bring before the Meeting.

NOTICE is also hereby given that immediately after the termination of the above meeting, an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING will be held for the purpose of passing the following Special Resolution:—

That the word "three" in the third line of the 93rd Article of Association of the Company be deleted and the word "five" substituted therefor.

N.B.—The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 15th to the 22nd February, 1899, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board,

C. H. B. FORBES & Co., Secretaries and Agents.

Bombay, 13th February, 1899.

SMOKERS!

TRY

A BOX OF

LIVIERATO & CO.'S!

(Late MORAITI AND ALEVRA,)

CIGARETTES,

And we are sure you will not repent it.

Prices to suit all pockets.

From Re. 1-8 to Rs. 4-4 per 100.

SOLE AGENTS:

V. FUCILE AND CO.,

BOMBAY.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

SUIT No. 432 OF 1898.

HUNSRAJ PATRAMAL, 2 NENSEY PATRAMAL and 3 GHELLA ASPAL, of Bombay, Hindoo Inhabitants, carrying on business in partnership under the name of HUNSRAJ PATRAMAL, at New Nagpada, Bombay ....Plaintiffs

vs.

1 JANABAI, widow of RAGHOO RAMJI, 2 OOMAJI RAGHOO, 3 MADHU RAGHOO and 4 HARIBHAU RAGHOO, all of Bombay, Hindoos, residing at Agreepada, outside the Fort ....Defendants

WHEREAS in pursuance of a Warrant of Sale of immoveable property, dated the 30th day of January, 1899, the Sheriff has been directed to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION all the right, title and interest of the said Defendants in the following property at the instance of the said Plaintiffs.

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Notice is hereby given to all persons having rights in or charges or claim on abovenamed property other than claims involving an objection to the attachment or seeking the removal of the same, that they should, on or before the 3rd day of March, 1899, lodge in my office a statement verified by oath or solemn affirmation of such rights, claims or charges.—Dated this 9th day of February, 1899.

N. C. MACLEOD, Assistant Commissioner.

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THE ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA AS A LIBRARY OF PHILOSOPHY and PSYCHOLOGY.

ABOUT the time that Joule was working out the mechanical equivalence of heat-experiments which resulted in the establishment of the doctrine of the conservation of energy, and Charles Darwin was meditating upon the origin of the Species, approaching the idea which has revolutionised all our ideas of life and the origin of the human race, a great German Physicist, E. H. Weber, was conducting a series of epoch-making experiments in what might be termed the physics of mind.

Weber had noticed the curious fact that while one may easily detect the difference in weight between, say, an orange and a crab apple, held in the hands, this same amount of difference could not be detected if the weights were greatly increased—that is to say, we cannot detect the difference between two cannon balls weighing, say, 49 lbs. and 50 lbs. Evidently there was some law of relation in these facts, and Weber went to work upon what he was pleased to term the "difference-threshold" that is the limit of the discriminating powers of the human senses, sight, hearing, touch, etc.

The German savant found that if we are able to detect the difference between, say, sixteen and seventeen ounces, we shall be able to distinguish between thirty-two and thirty-four ounces, and not between thirty-two and thirty-three ounces, the addition being in each case one-sixteenth. This fraction he found (supposing it to be the 'difference-threshold' of the muscular sense) remains a constant, however light or however heavy the weights compared.

This curious phenomena Weber formulated into what is variously known as Weber's law, or the law of psycho-physics The law may be variously stated thus:—The difference between any two stimuli is experienced as of equal magnitude, in case the mathematical relation of these stimuli remains unaltered. Or, otherwise expressed, in order that the intensity of the sensation may increase in arithmetical progression, the stimulus must increase in geometrical progression. The law is also stated by Fechner, in this form:—The sensations increase as the logarithms of the stimulus. ("Encyclopædia Britannica," Vol. 21. article "Weber's Law.")

These interesting experiments of Weber and Fechner may be said to be the foundation of present-day psychology. It was the first instance in which a mathematical relationship was established among the phenomena of the mind. The development and interpretation of this law, and the extension of these methods of exact experiment, constitute the modern science of psychology. (See article on psychology by Ward, "Encyclopædia Britannica," Vol. 20.)

The date of Weber and Fechner's experiments, between 1850 and 1860, is of a especial interest from the fact that philosophy so called had been cultivated for upwards of 2,000 years preceding, and that this is the first great generalization, or law, in this field, which possesses any scientific value whatever.

Philosophy was a popular study among the Greeks four or five centuries before our era, and the German historian, Zeller, has written a voluminous history of philosophy as it was cultivated among these old Greeks. Probably the most notable of the matter was Aristotle, whose system may be said to have denominated European thought down to the time of Bruno and Galileo. (See article Aristotle, "Encyclopædia Britannica," Vol. 2.) With the revival of learning the Problem of Life and Mind were attacked by a host of thinkers, and every great nation had its representative schools of thought. The greatest of the French, measured by his influence at least, was Descartes, the foremost of the Germans is undoubtedly Kant, while among the English the names of Bacon, Hobbes, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, Mill, and Spencer serve to recall how deep has been the interest of our own thinkers in this field.

Probably the most interesting fact to be noted in the history of Philosophy is that to which Geo. Henry Lewes (See "Encyclopædia Britannica," Vol. 14) devoted the larger part of his well known history, viz., that all the speculation of all these centuries had nothing whatever, in the way of experimental facts, to stand on. What these so-called philosophers preferred to do was to sit in their studies and dream, they called this thinking, or philosophizing, but as a matter of fact it was only guessing. Not one of them ever thought of constructing a laboratory and investigating, and that is why all the philosophical systems which have ever been invented—and that is just the word to describe the process by which they were evolved—have vanished into thin air with the slow advance of exact knowledge, that is to say, scientific knowledge.

Just as the "Encyclopædia Britannica," viewed from various sides, may be said to comprise a library of history and of science, and of law, and of medicine, and of the fine arts, and so on, so, too, does it contain a whole library of Philosophy, that is to say, its various articles upon philosophical subjects and upon great philosophers, taken together, afford that all any intelligent man, save those who make philosophy a life study, wishes to know. A reference to the titles of the articles printed above, and the names of the authors, suffices to show something of the wealth of information which the "Encyclopædia" contains. All of these articles were written by the foremost among the living students of philosophy, and notable for the fact that they are concise and compact without being dull and dry. They are for the most part brief, and one can spend evening after evening taking up one treatise after another, and in this pleasant way acquire a clear and vivid idea of all that has been thought and written from the time of the Greeks to the present day.

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On MONDAY, the 20th instant, at 2 p.m. Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at their rooms, on account and at the risk of Jehanghir Jamsetjee Colett.

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On SUNDAY, the 19th instant, at 3-30 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT and Co. will sell by Public Auction, at the above-mentioned place, about 15 Arab horses suitable for riding and carriages, belonging to different Arab dealers proceeding to their native country.

The horses will be on view four days before the sale.

On THURSDAY, the 23rd inst. at 1 p.m, Messrs. BENNETT and Co., will sell by Public Auction at No 7, Harbour View Buildings near Apollo Hotel, Colaba, Causeway, very handsome teak and blackwood plain and carved French-polished house hold furniture, rich glass and crockery ware. best platedware, Hinks and Ditmars hanging and table lamps, table ornaments, China and Japanese flowervases, Brussel and Cambay carpets, large Musical box, five pictures sweet-toned Mahogany square piano, large cooking stove etc. etc., the property of C. E. ROSS Esq.

Catalogues will be published and the property will be on view four days before sale.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On SATURDAY, the 25th instant, at 1 p.m., Messrs BENNETT and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at Church Gate Street. Fort, above Vienna confectioners, the very valuable and handsome teak and black wood plain and carved house hold furniture, a sweet-tone and cottage piano, by John Brodwood and Sons in very good order, handsome China and Japanese vases, rich table ornaments, table and hanging kerosine lamps, large brussels Persian carpets, pictures and oilographs and C. & C. the property of W. P. Cleary Esq.

Catalogues will be published and the property will be on view 4 days before sale.

Under instructions from Mr. Jose Manoel de Souza, the mortgagee and on account and at the risk of the heirs of Perambai, widow of Pitha Hebba, the mortgagor, Messrs. BENNETT and Co. will sell by Public Auction on WEDNESDAY, the 1st day of March, 1899, at 4 p.m., on the premises the following property:—

All that piece or parcel of Government land or ground with the messuage tenement or dwelling house erected thereon situated at New Town in Portuguese Street or Northbrook Street in the Registration Sub-district and in the Island of Bombay registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under Old No. 3022 and New Survey No. 5607 and assessed by the Assessor and Collector of Municipal Rates and Taxes under Ward No. , and Street No. , containing by admeasurement 161 4-9 square yards or thereabouts and bounded as follows that is to say on the East by a Sweepers' passage on the West by the aforesaid Portuguese Street or Northbrook Street on the North by a passage and Burial ground of Jews and on the South by the property of Kasibai widow of Babaji Ramji.

For further particulars and conditions of sale application may be made to Messrs. Ardesir Hormusji and Dinshaw Solicitors for the vendor at their office No. 13 Esplanade Road or to the undersigned.

AUCTION SALE OF VALUABLE LANDED PROPERTY AT NANABHOY BOMANJEE STREET, FORT.

On WEDNESDAY, the 8th proximo, at 4 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT and Co. will sell by Public Auction, on the premises, by order of the mortgagee, and on account and risk of Messrs. Kaikhusroo Sorabjee Mehta or Dhunjisbaw Sorabji Mehta, the mortgagors under the power of sale given to the mortgagee by an indenture of mortgage, dated 27th January, 1897, executed by the mortgagors in favour of the mortgagee, the following valuable property—

All that piece or parcel of land or ground, with the messuage tenement, or dwelling-house and premises standing thereon which said messuage tenement, or dwelling-house is, situate at Nanabhoy Bomanji Street, within the Fort walls of Bombay in the subdistrict of Bombay containing by admeasurement thirty-three and eight-ninths square yards or thereabouts, registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under old No. 356, new No. 5360, old Survey No. 1-711, and new Survey No. 9147, and assessed by the Collector of Assessment under A Ward No. 2406 Street No. 28. and which said premises are bounded as follows that is to say on the west by a public passage on the east and south by the lane formerly called Nanabhoy Bomanjee Cross Lane and new Bomanjee Lane and on the north by the house or one of the compartments of the house of Hormusji Bomanji and which premises are now in the occupation of the tenants of the said mortgagors.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to Messrs. Jehangir and Seervai Solicitors at their office Oriental Buildings or to the undersigned.

BENNETT & CO.

Bombay, 13th February, 1899.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co. No. 4, FORBES & MEDOWS STREETS, FORT.

SALE OF STOCK-IN-TRADE OF CHEMIST'S SHOP OPPOSITE THE JOOMA MUSJID.

Under instructions from the Executors of the late Mr Manecklal Chakoobhai, the mortgagee, and on account and at the risk of the mortgagors, Waghjee, Narotumdas and Co. Druggists, Insolvents, Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co. will sell by Public Auction if not previously sold in one lot THIS DAY WEDNESDAY, the 15th inst. at 2 p.m. and, on the alternate days, at shop No. 148, Shaik Memon Street opposite the Jooma Musjid, the whole, stock-in-trade consisting of patent medicines, medical, toilet, and chemical requisites, dispensing glasses stethescopes, glass percolator, tincture press, bottle washing machine mortars and pestles, slates, measure glass, wide and narrow mouth glass stoppered empty bottles and jars, tinctures, spirits, oils, infusions, decoctions, succal liniments, extracts, ointments, emplasters, pulvis, syrups, roots, homœopathic and other pills Cod liver oil musk kastoori Mellines etc. food worm tablets douche Vinolia soap scent casks of plaster of paris phenyle label case sets of glassdoor shop cupboards and shelvings counter table scales and weighs clock empty cases etc. etc.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.

Bombay, 15th February, 1899.

INDIAN INDUSTRY.

Being a Reprint of Two Letters to the "Bombay Gazette"

And a Lecture by

BEAUCLERK.

Price 8 Annas.

CAN BE HAD AT

THE OFFICE OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE,"

Messrs. THACKER and Co., Ld., Bombay.

Messrs. THACKER SPINK and Co., Calcutta.

Messrs. HIGGINBOTHAM and Co., Madras.

SALES BY AUCTION.

MENESSE AND COMPANY, No. 35, HUMMUM STREET.

AUCTION SALE OF HESSIAN CLOTH.

THIS DAY On WEDNESDAY the 15th Inst. at 3 p.m. Messrs. MENESSE and Co. will sell by Public Auction in the Port Trust Godown at Carnac Bunder by order of the concerned and on account and at the risk of Sewjee Kanjee 100 bales Hessian cloth 40 in by 8 oz. any mill.

AUCTION SALE OF LANDED PROPERTY IN 14th CAMATIPURA STREET.

THIS DAY WEDNESDAY, the 15th instant, at 4 p.m. Messrs. MENESSE and Co. will sell by Public Auction, on the premises by order of the mortgagee, Narotum Jetha, and on account and at the risk of the mortgagor, Dajee Gancojee, the following landed property.—

All that piece of Government land, together with the dwellinghouse standing thereon, situate at 14th Camatipura Street. outside the Fort, in the registration sub-district of Bombay, containing by admeasurement about 111 square yards, registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under old Nos. 4646, 4647, 4648, new Nos. 11073, 11074, old Survey Nos. 4181, 4182, and new Survey Nos. 6509, 6510, and assessed by the Assessor and Collector of Municipal Rates and Taxes under E Ward Nos. 2110, 2111, and Street Nos. 43-49, and bounded on the east by the property, of Hema Deepada, on the west by the property of Lingoo Nursoo Junker on the north by a sweepers passage and on the south by the 14th Camatipura Street.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to the undersigned.

AUCTION SALE OF WINDOW GLASSES.

TO-MORROW THURSDAY the 16th instant, at 3 p.m., Messrs. MENESSE & Co. will sell by Public Auction, on the top-floor of the premises occupied by the Oriental Commercial Agency in Medows Street, Fort, on account of the concerned—100 cases window glasses different sizes.

TO-MORROW THURSDAY, the 16th instant, Messrs. MENESSE & Co. will hold their usual Weekly Auction Sale, at their Rooms of piece-goods twist and other articles, &c. &c.

A quantity of piece-goods, such as shirtings jaconets, dhooties nainsooks, etc.

5 cases flannel
500 pieces dyed cloth.
On account of the concerned—
3 bales grey T cloth.
2 " " Shirtings.

A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR CAPITALIST AND INVESTORS.

Auction Sale of very Valuable Landed Property at Rampart Row and Rope Walk Lane, Fort, next to the P. and O. S. N. Co.'s Offices.

On SATURDAY, the 11th proximo, at 4 p.m., Messrs. MENESSE & Co. will, under instructions from the Executors of the Estate of the late Mr. Dadabhoy Bomanji Jijibhoy, sell by Public Auction, on the premises, the following very valuable landed property.—

All that piece or parcel of land or ground, together with the messuages, tenements and buildings standing thereon, situated at Rampart Row and Rope Walk Lane, within the Fort of Bombay, in the registration sub-district of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 411 square yards or thereabouts, registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under old No. 55, and new No. 4895, assessed by the Municipality of Bombay under Street Nos. 29-1-3, and Ward Nos. 1174, 1177, and bounded on the north by the property of Haji Ali Bebany, on the south by the Rampart Row, on the east by the property of Bai Perozbai Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, and on the west by Rope Walk Lane.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to the Executors at their Office, No. 18, Church Gate Street, Fort, or to the undersigned.

MENESSE & Co.

Bombay, 15th February, 1899.

INSURANCES.

UNIVERSAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

ESTABLISHED IN INDIA IN 1834.

ENDOWMENT and Whole Life Policies, LOW PREMIUMS, LARGE ANNUAL CASH BONUSES.

For full Prospectus and Forms of Proposal Apply to

KING, KING & Co., Agents and Secretaries, BOMBAY.

SUN LIFE OFFICE. LONDON,

ESTABLISHED 1810.

ANNUITIES IMMEDIATE AND DEFERRED ENDOWMENTS, INVESTMENT POLICIES.

The fullest and latest information will be given regarding Assurances on application to

SAMUEL FITZE AND Co., Ld., Chief Agents.

5-57 Esplanade Road, Bombay.

Guarantees Against Embezzlement.

INDIAN GUARANTEE ASSOCIATION.

HEAD OFFICE, ORIENTAL BUILDINGS, BOMBAY.

Funds in Government Securities only, and remain in India.

THE Association provides Security for the Intermission and Fidelity of Persons in situations of Trust and Responsibility.

For Prospectuses and Proposal Forms apply to

McLAUCHLAN SLATER, F.I.A. Secretary.

J. RATILAL & Co., TOBACCONISTS.

BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.

SOLE AGENTS IN INDIA, BURMAH AND CEYLON.

FOR

LAMBERT AND BUTLERS.

TOBACCOS:—

JESSOMINE,

MAY BLOSSOM,

FLAKED GOLD LEAF,

HONEY DEW,

PRIZE-MEDAL BIRD'S EYE,

VIKING NAVY CUT,

LOG CABIN,

LILY OF THE VALLEY,

GOLDEN BIRD'S EYE,

CIGARETTES:—

JESSOMINE,

MAY BLOSSOM,

and NEEDLEPOINTS.

QUALITY AND CONDITION GUARANTEED. All goods found affected at any time replaced at shortest notice.

All inquiries to be referred to

J. RATILAL & Co., Tobacconists,

406, Shaikh Memon Street, BOMBAY.

BRANCH:—66, Canning Street, Calcutta.

NOTES.

INDIAN LAND REVENUE, FOR PRINCIPLE AND SOUND POLICY.

BY

TOMARMAL.

Price Re. 1. Postage half-anna.

To be had at the "Bombay Gazette," Bombay.

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NOTICES.

NOTICE.

WESTERN INDIA TURF CLUB.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of Members, W. I. T. C. will be held at the Annexe Watson's Hotel, on THURSDAY, the 16th February, at 5-30 P.M.

By Order,
CECIL GRAY,
Secretary, W. I. T. C.

Bombay, 3rd February, 1899.

BOMBAY HORSE AND DOG SHOW.

THE above SHOW will be held on MONDAY and TUESDAY, the 20th and 21st February.

The Final Entries close on Thursday, the 16th inst.

Prospectus and all information may be obtained from the undersigned.

D. LINDSAY, Hony : Secy : & Trea,
The Old Secretariat, Apollo Street.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Undersigned precisely at 1 P.M. on MONDAY, the 20th of February 1899, for MASONRY and STONE WORK of Executive Engineer's Office, together with its out-houses, Marine Lines, Bombay.

2. Forms of Tender with conditions of contract, &c., can be obtained at the Executive Engineer's Office on personal application only, and by approved contractors, during office hours.

3. Earnest money of Rs. 400 in currency notes, should accompany each tender.

4. Security deposit at 10 per cent of the total estimated value of the work will be required from the contractors, whose tenders may be accepted.

5. The acceptance of the tender will rest with the Chief Engineer, Bombay Command, Military Works, Poona.

6. The Undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason for such.

THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
Bombay Division, M. W.

BOMBAY RACES.

SATURDAY, 18TH, WEDNESDAY, 22ND, AND SATURDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY.

ADMISSION :—

FIRST ENCLOSURE.

SEASON TICKETS—Grand Stand, Enclosure and Private Paddock including tickets for 2 Ladies ...Rs. 15
SEASON TICKETS—Grand Stand and Enclosure only with tickets for 2 Ladies..........Rs. 12

DAY TICKETS.

Grand Stand and Enclosure, including admittance for 1 Lady ....Rs. 5
Private Paddock ....Re. 1

N.B.—Ladies and Members, W. I. T. C., are admitted to the Private Paddock Free.

Application for SEASON TICKETS should be made to the Secretary, W. I. T. C., Byculla Club.

DAY TICKETS will be sold at the Gate only.

N.B.—SEASON TICKETS for the EXTRA MEETINGS are NOT available for the Bombay Races.

CECIL GRAY,
Secretary, W. I. T. C.

Bombay, 6th February, 1899.

THE BOMBAY COTTON MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE

IS hereby given that the TWENTY FIRST DIVIDEND (interim) of Rupees 20 (Twenty per share, being at the rate of 8 per cent per annum for the half year ended 31st Dec. 1898 has been declared and made payable on and after WEDNESDAY the 15th day of February 1899 at the Registered office of the Company on production of share certificates to those share holders whose names are on the Register this day.

By Order
JEEWANDAS AND CO.
Agents.

No. 5 Green Street, Fort Bombay 8th February 1899.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED, from 9th to 16th day of February 1899 both days, inclusive.

REMEMBER

MADON, SONS & Co.

For Drugs, Chemicals, Patent Medicines, Toilet requisites and all articles

CONNECTED WITH PHARMACY.

Up-country orders promptly attended to and carefully executed on the same day the order is received. Prices Moderate, and compares favourably with other houses in Trade in India.

MADON, SONS & Co.,
Carnac Road, BOMBAY. Market,
OPPOSITE GOCULDAS TEJPAL HOSPITAL.

PATTISON'S WELL-KNOWN GORDON WHISKY AT Rs. 32 PER DOZEN.

SUPERIOR TEAS

FROM KANGRA VALLEY, PUNJAB
CHAHPORE TEA GARDENS.

		Rs.	a.
SCENTED ORANGE PEKOE	Nett per lb.	1	0
ORANGE PEKOE No. I	"	0	15
Do. No. II	"	0	14
Do. No. III	"	0	12
PEOPLE'S MIXTURE	"	0	12
PEKOE DUST	"	0	10
PEKOE SOUCHONG	"	0	8

THE VERY BEST DISINFECTANTS.

From Messrs. FLETCHER BROTHERS and Co. Grimsby
Carbolic Powder 15 per cent. Rs. 10 per cwt.
FLETCHER'S Phenol in 1, 2 and 5 Gallon Drums at Rs. 3-12, Rs. 3-8 and Rs. 3-4 respectively per Gallon.
Cresol in 5 Gallon Drums Rs. 3 per Gallon.
Carbolic Acid in 5 Gallon Drums at Rs. 3 per Gallon.

R. RAMCHANDRA & Co.,—SOLE AGENTS
15, MARINE STREET, FORT,
1st Floor, Sassoon Building, Bombay.

CARLSBAD NATURAL MINERAL WATERS are used in the treatment of Diseases of the Liver when Patients are unable to visit the Spa.

THE NATURAL CARLSBAD SPRUDEL-SALT is an efficient diuretic, but as an aperient it should be taken before breakfast, in doses of from one to two teaspoonfuls dissolved in water.

A sample of the Salt in Powder free to Members of the Medical profession on application to—

STANLEY OAKES,
13-2, Government Place, Calcutta,
Wholesale Agent in India for
INGRAM & ROYLE, LD.,
London, Liverpool and Bristol.

WIESBADEN, GERMANY,
PENSION VILLA FRANK,
ABEGGSTRASSE, 3.

WELL FURNISHED ROOMS, excellent Table Baths, thermal and other, House stands on its own grounds. Within three minutes' walk of Kurhaus moderate Prices. Arrangements made with Families for Summer or Winter [illegible]

BANKS.

THE AGRA BANK, LIMITED

CAPITAL £600,000
RESERVE FUND ....£ 20,000

LONDON BANKERS.
THE BANK OF ENGLAND.
GLYN MILLS, CURRIE AND COMPANY.
NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND SCOTLAND.
NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND AND BRANCHES, IRELAND.
PROVINCIAL BANK OF IRELAND AND BRANCHES.

BRANCHES

At Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Lahore, Kurrachee.

CORRESPONDENTS.

PARIS	The Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Ld.
SINGAPORE, PENANG	Messrs. Boustead & Co.
HONGKONG	Messrs. Gilman & Co.
AUSTRALIA	Bank of Australasia and Branch
COLOMBO	The Bank of Madras.
RANGOON	Bank of Bengal
AGRA	Alliance Bank of Simla, Ld.
DELHI	Bank of Bengal.

BOMBAY BRANCH.

ACCOUNTS CURRENT opened and Interest allowed when the Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Received on Terms to be learnt on application.

HOME REMITTANCE DEPOSITS for family and other remittances to Europe in the Bank's own Bills and Interest at 3 per cent. allowed thereon pending remittance.

Circular Notes issued negotiable in all the principal Towns in Europe. Securities received in safe custody and Interest and Dividends realised thereon.

LOANS granted on Government Paper or other convertible Securities; and APPROVED Bills discounted.

GOVERNMENT and other STOCKS and SHARES bought and sold, and the safe custody of the same undertaken.

INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected; and every other description of Banking Business and Money Agency transacted.

SYDNEY L. WYATT, Manager.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 28m. Sun sets, 6h. 0m. High water, 2-48m. 3-54a. Low water, 9-2m., 9-22a.
Bombay Light Horse parade, 7 a.m.
Municipal Standing Committee, 3-30 p.m.
Bombay Chamber of Commerce, annual meeting, 4 p.m.
The Plague Commission, Secretariat.
General meeting of the Bombay Branch of the National Association 5-45 p.m.

THE STAR OF INDIA MILL-HAND STRIKE.—The remainder of the operatives of the Star of India Mill, who had been on strike, returned to work yesterday morning.

MAHOMEDAN VISITORS TO THE VICTORIA GARDENS.—Monday being the "Bassi Eed day," 16,473 Mahomedans visited the Victoria Gardens, in celebration of that festival.

EFFECTS OF DRINK.—Mahomed Moosuf, a serang, employed on board the steam ship Lyden Hall, now lying in the Prince's Dock, has reported to the police that, on Monday, he lost a silver double case watch valued at Rs.127, somewhere on the Imambara Road, while under the influence of liquor.

ALEXANDRA NATIVE GIRLS' ENGLISH INSTITUTION.—The annual distribution of prizes to the successful students of the above Institution will take place on Friday, the 10th March, at the Framji Cowasji Institute, when the Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. G. Ranade will preside and Mrs. Ranade will give away the prizes.

BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL INDIAN ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the above Branch, which has recently been re-organised under the presidency of the Hon. Sir Charles Ollivant, K. C. I. E., will be held, to-day, at 5-45 p.m., at Mr. Adamji Pirbhoy's bungalow, the Ridge, Malabar Hill, for the confirmation of the Draft Rules, revised by the executive committee, and other business which may be brought before the meeting.

SAINT THOMAS' CATHEDRAL.—To-morrow), Thursday, the 16th instant, a special service of Intercession will be held in the Cathedral for deliverance from the plague. There will be a celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 o'clock in the morning, and Special Service at 6 in the evening. An address will be delivered by the Lord Bishop of Bombay. The offertories on that day will be given towards the support of the Hospitals and other agencies, which exist for the benefit of plague-stricken sufferers.

CARRIAGE COLLISION.—Surgeon Captain R. Milne and Dr. R. J. Kapadia of the plague Research Laboratory, were on Monday afternoon driving along the Parel Road, when near the Byculla Police Office, the carriage collided with a hack victoria. The collision occurred while the occupants were attempting to get clear of a labour cart and a tram car which were coming from the opposite direction. Both the gentlemen were thrown out of the carriage, and were slightly hurt. Both the vehicles were damaged.

IMPORTATION OF WEAPONS.—Before Mr J. Sanders Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, at the Esplanade Police Court yesterday Syed Mahomed a Mogul merchant, was charged with having in his possession twelve swords, ten knives, and one dagger without a license. Mr. J. Ringrow a Preventive Officer stated that the accused arrived in Bombay yesterday from Muscat in a gunja as a pauper. His baggage was brought to the Customs guard boat for examination. On being questioned as to what he had in his box, accused replied that it contained only clothes. On opening the box, the Preventive officer found clothes on top of a false bottom. When that was opened twelve swords, ten knives and one dagger were found. When accused was questioned as to why he had brought the arms he said he had brought them for sale. The magistrate on the evidence charged accused with importing arms in contravention of section 6 Act XI, of 1878 to which he pleaded guilty, saying that he did not know that it was an illegal act. His Worship remarked that the court had no doubt that the accused knew quite well that he was doing an illegal act in importing weapons, which were carefully packed under the false bottom of a case belonging to him and he would be sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment.

A DISHONEST GOLDSMITH.—At the Esplanade Police Court yesterday, Inspector Barker charged Babul Balshet, a Hindu goldsmith, before Mr. Sanders Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, with criminal breach of trust, in respect of seven gold bangles of the value of Rs. 160, belonging to Choora Purshotum. On Saturday morning, complainant took eleven gold bangles to the accused who kept a shop at Withalwady to get them engrossed by him. The price for the job was agreed upon. The accused then told complainant to accompany him to a shop at Kalbadavi Road, saying that he would work there. On arriving at the latter place, accused set to work and engrossed four of the bangles. He handed over these four bangles to the complainant, telling him to get them polished at another shop and that he would in the meantime engross the remaining seven bangles. The complainant took the four bangles which accused had engrossed to a shop in Hanuman Lane and got them polished. Later complainant went to the shop where accused had been working to get the remaining seven bangles but found the man had disappeared. After making inquiries for him for two hours compainant reported the matter to the police who arrested the accused and recovered the bangles. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

DISPUTED OWNERSHIP OF EMERALDS.

BEFORE Mr. J. Sanders-Slater Chief Presidency Magistrate, at the Esplanade Police Court yesterday one BhaskerRamchandra was charged at the instance of Inspector Framji Bhicaji, of the Criminal Investigation Department, with possession of two emeralds valued at Rs. 6,000 the property of Chinta Raghoonath Kukade. Mr. Aun Ali, barrister-at-low, with Mr. Godinho appeared for the complainant while Mr. Khunderao defended the accused.

Complainant in his evidence stated that he had an emerald necklace valued at Rs. 40,000. He was looked by some Pathans at Kolhapore on the 14th June 1897 and robbed property He had charged several persons with robbery and one of the cases in respect of the offence was still pending in the Court at Kolhapore. Witness had bought the necklace at Bareda from Dewan Hari Bhakti for Rs. 20,000. It then consisted of emeralds, rubies, diamonds, and pearls. After the purchase, complainant made certain alterations in the necklace by substituting larger stones for the smaller ones. He identified the emeralds as party of theproperty looted from him at Kolhapore.

The prisoner on being questioned by the court said that he was a native of Raibunder, near Punjin, in Goa. The emeralds belonged to him, and had been in his possession considerable time. He had evidence to prove that they were his property. They were called "ambse" and were worn by females as pendents on auspicious days. He was informed that the emeralds were purchased several years ago by his forefathers for the use of the members of the family They were in his possession for the last ten or fifteen years. He got them from his father, who was still alive. He and his father kept the property in a box. Under the diretion of his father, who was an old man he came down to Bombay to sell the emeralds. This was about a month ago. He left Goa on Thursday and arrived here on Sunday last.

Mr. Aun Ali applied for a remand of the case on the ground that complainant had to go to Calcutta to identify some of the property, which had been discovered there.

Mr. Khunderao applied for bail to which Mr. Aun Ali objected. The magistrate allowed bail, remarking that it was a bailable offence, but would require a substantial surety for Rs. 10,000. The surety was produced and accepted by the court. The case was remanded to the 28th instant.

BARONET CRICKET CLUB vs LIBERAL CRICKET CLUB.

THIS match was played on Esplanade ground on Sunday last, and resulted in a win for the Liberals by 13 runs. Lungrana, captain of the liberals, winning the toss, electted to bat but against the splendid bowling of Bhaimunshi and Madon, they only made 63 runs, the chief contributors being Lungrana and Vasalgara. Bhaimunshi secured six and Madon 4 wickets at the cost of 20 and 39 runs respectively. Limji Mehta did good service behind the wickets, not giving a single bye throughout the innings. The Baronets contributed only 50 runs, which was mainly due to the excellent filding and the remarkable bowling of Bulsara, who obtained 8 wickets for 18 runs. N. Mehta was the only man who got into double figures. The Liberals in their secondInnings ran up a score to 85 runs, of which Lungrana contributed 18, Bulsara 18, Fatakia 10 not out and Irani 10. Again Bhamunshi did good service to his side, capturing 7 wickets for 27 runs. The Liberals thus won the match by 13 runs.

THERMOMETER READINGS.

MONDAY—NIGHT—FEBRUARY 13.

10 p.m.	74·0

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 14.

6 a.m.	71·4
10 a.m	76·9
2 p.m	78·8
4 p.m.	88·3

BOMBAY SCOTTISH EDUCATION SOCIETY'S SCHOOLS.

THE annual prize distribution to the successful pupils of the Bombay scottish Education Society's Schools took place last evening in the Town Hall the Hon. Mr. Justice Russell presiding. A temporary dais had been erected in the central portion of the hall for the chairman and others, and besides it was placed a table on which the prizes of books were exhibit. The meeting was largely attended by ladies and gentlemen interested in the progress and success of the schools. On the dais, besides the chairman, were accommodated Mrs. Dick, the Rev. Dr. MacRichon, Mr. Muirhead, the Rev. Mr. Gray, the Rev. Mr. Macray, honorary Secretaries Mr. J. P. Chrystal and Mr. J. M. Dick honorary treasurer

The Rev. Mr. Gray then read the annual report, from which the following are excerpts :—

The committee are glad to be able to report that, though the city was visited by a second severe attack of plague during the earlier part of the year, the work of the school was not interfered with to the same extent as in the year before. Fewer pupils were withdrawn, and most of these returned after the spring vacation. Although the epidemic has not left us the schools have returned very nearly to their normal strength and uninterrupted and steady work may now be thankfully looked forward to. The results for the year's work, so far as they can be tabulated—and that is not very far—are given below. The schools have been visited by the members of Committee more regularly than formerly, so that they have been able to form a better idea of the kind of education that is being imparted, and to do more to supply felt wants. The Jardine Gold Medal, given to the dux girl of each school has been gained this year in the Byculla School by Gladys Brown, and by Caroline Davies in the John Connon School. The Society's Silver Medal has been won by Alan WestByculla School. The Macpherson Memorial Scholarship, which will be open to competition again at the end of 1899, is now held by George Pearson, who has just passed the Previous Examination from the Elphinstone College. Of eleven pupils presented by the schools for the last Matriculation Examination, six passed. One goes to Endinburgh, and one joins the Grant Medical College, to study Medicine, Of those who passed in 1897, five out of six, who sat for the Previous Examination passed, one in the First Class, one in Second, and the others in the Pass Class The B.A. degree was gained by one former pupil, while another passed the Intermediate Examination in the Second Class. In Europe two who Matriculated in 1891 took the degree of M.B., C.M. one afterward spassing into the Indian Medical Service. Two others are now studying Medicine, one at the Edinburgh University, the other in Manchester The schools were inspected in November, and the usual grants-in-aid have been passed. The Inspector, Mr. R. D. Prior, pointed out some defects which are being remedied, and gave some useful hints by which it is hoped the schools may profit this year. The Bible has been taught regularly in the Schools, and the Committee would suggest to parents that more might be done by them to assist the teachers in this part of their work. It has been decided that in future prizes shall be given for Scripture knowledge. The John Connon High School was again very successful at Cricket last year. During the season twenty matches were played and our boys were successfull in fifteen. The first eleven matches played, the second, five out of seven, and the third eleven were successful in all their matches. Hockey is becoming a favourite game with the boys and they are very fair exponents of it. At Byculla Cricket was regularly practised and fourteen matches were played during the season, but Hockey and Football were more popular than Cricket, as the ground is better adapted for these games. It is much to be desired that the Corporation would open up for sports the portion of the Victoria Gardens recently acquired, as lads to the North of the town must travel three miles to the Esplanade before they can get a satisfactory piece of ground for play. The thanks of the Committee are due to Messrs. Nicker and King for their hard work in connection with the field sports of the boys at the cost of so much of their leisure time. The Committee would convey their thanks to Mr. McDonald, who has been so long Princi pal of the Schools, to Mr. Wilkinson and to the whole staff, for the work they have done through the year Mr. McDonald, speaks warmly of the loyal support he has received from all his assistants. Some have done better than others, and the Committee would impress, especially upon the younger teachers the desirability of fitting themselves in every possible way for the efficient discharge of their very important office. A statement of the annual accounts is attached from which it appears that in the past year the Society has been able to pay its way. The receipts from all sources (including the Government Grand-in-aid, which, though earned 1898 was only passed by Government and received in the first week of 1899, and so does not appear in the present account) amounted to Rs. 23,531-5-10 and the disbursements to Rs.21,415-8-3, leaving a balance of income over expenditure of Rs, 2,115-13-7. Out of this some of Rs. 2,115-13.7 the Comimmitte has repaid to the Endowment Fund the sum of Rs. 1,385 borrowed from it for current expenses during the year 1896. Expenditure exceeded receipts in 1897 by Rs. 610-11-1. Receipt exceeded expenditure in 1898 by Rs. 730-113-7 The accounts for the year 1898 include subscriptions amount Rs 881 given by some firms and private individuals The Committee gratefully acknowledge these subscriptions as it it ovident that without them the work of the Society could not have been carried on without loss. They would also record with pleasure receipt of several donations from some old pupils and they would gradly welcome other from them who are in a position to asist.

The Rev. Dr. Mackichan, in proposing the adoption of the report, said that the task was an easy one, since the incidents of the year had been fully narrated in the document itself. It was gratifying to note, and the fact deserved the warmest congratulations of all interested in the schools, that they had been able to hold their own against all odds, and showed receipts in excess of the expenditure. Great credit was due to the energy of Mr. Dick, honorary treasurer, for these happy results. These schools were working for the good of an important section of the community. Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald deserved their warmest acknowledgements for the labour they had bestowed for a long series of years upon the education of the young people of the community. Mr. Macdonald had done a great deal for the children of the schools ever after they had left them. The schools had been founded on the basis of religious instruction; and deserved the support of all interested in religious education. The Bombay Scottish Education Society existed in itself without much outside aid, because it was founded on the soundest principles; but still the committee were entitled to appeal to all classes of the community for assistance in supplying the wants noticed in the report.

The proposition was seconded by Mr. Muirhead, and carried with acclamation. The children then went through exercises in vocal and instrumental music, which elicited loud cheers and bore testimony the careful instruction which they had received every department of their studies.

Mrs. Dick then distributed the prizes, each recipient there of being greeted with applause.

The chairman, in addressing the meeting, said he had derived absolutely unallayed pleasure during the time the proceedings lasted, for there could have been no more pleasant and no more agreeable light than that which they witnessed in that hall. There they had before them well-bred, healthy, happy-looking children, whose singing had given them much pleasure. When they looked at the report, they found that not only was every attention given to the mental training of the children, but their physical development was also cared for. The exercises which they had gone through did them credit. There could be no doubt that such results as they had seen that evening were due to extraordinary devetion to duty on the part of Mr. Macdonald and of his asistant Mr. Wilkinson. (Cheers) They knew that Scotchmen were noted for their capacity to leed in every sphere of life; and it was to be hoped that the boys of the school when they grew up would aim at a higth ideal and try to carry out that maxim (Applause.) The chairman was glad to remember that he had spent some seventeen years above the Fort premises of the schools and he was pleased that during that long period he lived above the Scottish atmosphere. (Loud cheers.) He did not propose to offer any advice to the children; but he would tell them always to bear in mind one thing—and that was to stick to a thing harder than their neighbour, and they would then be sure to beat him, (Applause.) He wished the children every happiness, and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Dick for distributing the prizes so gracefully and cordially as she had done, (Cheers.)

Mr. James Douglas proposed, and Mr. Dick seconded a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried with acclamation.

The chairman announced that the children would be granted a whole holiday today. At the call of Mr. Dick, three cheers were given for the Honourable Mr. Justice Russel, and the proceedings terminated about 7 o'clock.

LYALLPUR has been constituted a subdivision, Mr. B. H. Bird, Assistant Commissioner being the first sub-divisional officer. It was found necessary some time ago, to appoint an Assistant District Superintendent of Police, for this rising centre, and Government has already decided to make the head-quarters of the Civil Surgeon of the Jhang District.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemist and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per Bottle, Wholesale depot, 33 Farringdon Road, London England.

DEATH OF MR. H. J. RUSTOMJEE.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. H. J. Rustomji, the well-known merchant and commission agent of Karachi and Bombay. The deceased was a very enlightened gentleman and had paid several visits to Europe and greatly extended business in India. His charities were private but great. He was highly respected by his co-religionists at Karachi and Bombay and was very popular by reason of his amiable and noble qualities both of head and heart. Only a few days ago the marriage of one of his sons was celebrated with Bai Meherun, the only daughter of the late Mr. Jehangir Pleader. Mr. Rustomjee died at Karachi on Monday of heart disease. and his death is deeply regretted. Mr. Rustomjee the news of whose death came as a sudden shock to his numerous friends in Bombay only left Bombay ten days ago on a visit to his aged father, who was then seriously ill. It appears that on Wednesday last he was attacked by an ailment of the heart, that was at first supposed to be "angina pectoris." Despatches. dated Saturday and Sunday, brought the happy intelligence of his steady recovery, but this morning a third telegram arrived conveying the sad news of his death, It appears that Mr. Rustomjee was apparently in the best of health on Monday and retired early in the best spirits but at 9-30 o'clock he passed away peacefully. The intelligence came as a terrible blow to his sons in Bombay, and for that matter to hundreds of his friends European, Parsee and Native in Bombay. News of the sad event spread quickly, and long before the noon hour a stream of letters and telegrams of condolence began pouring into the establishment at Tamarind Lane, expressing the regrets of numberless friends for the sad bereavement sustained by the family and the profoundest sympathy is felt for them. Mr. Rustomjee had many friends among the European population of India. He was as much at home in London, Paris, Petersburg or New York as he was in Bombay or Karachi, and he only returned from a visit to the British capital a couple of months ago. It may be stated that on this, his last visit to England, Mr. Rustomjee was duly presented at Court. His endless flow of good spirits, his wide knowledge of the world and its ways, and imperturbable affability of manner rendered him immensely popular in that element of society at home which seldom enters into genuine "camaraderie" with a native of the East. Mr. Rustomjee was in the prime of life, being only fifty-four years of age, and in looks and buoyancy of spirits and disposition he was ten years younger. During his last visit to England, Mr. Rustomjee was interviewed by a representative of the "British Indian Commerce." We take the following interesting extracts from the journal :—

In the mercantile sense, Mr. H. J. Rustomjee is amongst the oldest, as he is one of the most highly respected of its citizens. His life story is virtually the story of Kurrachee itself. Mr. Rustomjee knows London, Manchester and Glasgow, our manufacturing centres, and our great supports almost as well as he knows the sea-port of Sind, in the making of whose prosperity he has taken so large a share. He had never been interviewed for the Press at this side of the world, and he didn't want to be interviewed. But in a fine suite of State apartments at the Grand Hotel in Northumberland Avenue, the Special Commissioner of British-Indian Commerce found the merchant Prince of Kurrachee, surrounded by all the luxuries of the West, and the picturesqueness of the East, in his reception room. Mr. Rustomjee saw his fate before him, and submitted with good-humoured courtesy to be interviewed. Mr. Rustomjee is a good looking Parsee, a travelled man and a courtly cosmopolitan. There is not anything worthy knowing about the markets of the West that he does not know. He is as much a man of the world as a Russian diplomatist, which is saying a great deal.

Mr. Rustomjee is an observer, and had it been my special mission to gather up a quick-witted Parsee's experiences gathered in travels over both hemispheres I might have, in a sunny afternoon, acquired materials for a couple of racy volumes of reminiscences. That, however was not my object.

When we really, after a flow of stories relating to many lands, came in touch with the purpose of any visit, Mr. Rustomjee opened the special subject by quite a casual hint that he was nothing, and did not pretend to be anything, but a man in business.

"That," I replied, "is the exact reason why I want authority to tell briefly the story of your commercial career. You are no stranger amongst us, but you have not given as yet the very interesting experiences you must have passed through."

"They cannot be very exceptional," said he, "for hundreds of my native contemporaries in business have gone through similar vicissitudes and prospered. You must not regard me as an exceptional character in my commercial career."

"But many people who know you think otherwise, I persisted. "No comment on the prospects of India is more common than the suggestion that the natives themselves are incapable of industrial initiative of business organisation, and of the capacity to direct and control such an organisation when established. Your career, as others know it is, I believe, an illustration to the direct contrary."

"Such opinions are not founded on knowledge," Mr. Rustomjee rejoined, "and must be suggested by prejudice. At all events they are only opinions. You may take me as an illustration to the contray if you like, but you must only take me as a sample of a bulk."

With which understanding Mr. Rustomjee consented to confide some of his personal history.

"You know I am a Parsee," he began," and therefore come of a trading people who are far-seeing friends of British commerce. Some of your poets call us Parsees 'Sun idolaters'"—the allusion was to Tom Moore's Fireworshippers. "It is a general misconception. "As to myself, you will understand that my history is a very ordinary one. Before Kurrachee came into existence Bombay was and still is, the commercial autocrat of all India. I was born in Bombay in 1843, and went to Kurrachee when I was nine. There I have been ever since except when away on my business visits to other countries. So you see I am what you may call an old inhabitant."

"And when you were settled at the new port," I queried, how did you fare?

It was not a port in the commercial sense then, retorted Mr. Rustomjee: only one or two British vessels visited the place during any month of the year. Sometimes we did not see even one in a month; most of the merchandise came by native boats from Bombay.

Continuing to draw on his memory for the early incidents of his life at Kurrachee, Mr. Rustomjee drew some amusing pictures of the life of the Sind sea-port. The Parsees were the small traders of the town though a good many native Bombay firms had opened flourishing branches of their business."

Explaining his educational experiences, said Mr. Rustomjee, "To tell you the truth, I can hardly say how I was educated. My father had a general business, importing his goods from Bombay. I was being educated during some part of the day ; and learning the business at other times of the day, even at nine years of age."

"There were native schools there and your education could only have been obtained at them, I presume," I intervened. "How then could you acquire the perfect mastery of English which you possess?"

Well my education was as much English as native. I had an English tutor to coach me after the school hours. There were also, however, a few good officials who interested themselves in the young natives, and we were asked to attend classes at their houses. In this way we acquired a knowledge of English and of Western subjects. I progressed so well in my English and in English subjects that when I was a youngster I received several prizes from Sir Bartle Frere, who was then the Commissioner of Sind."

Major Frederick Goldsmid, who was the Educational Commissioner for the new Province, was in the habit of inviting about half-a-dozen smart Parsee and Hindoo boys to his house in the evening and giving them lessons in the secondary subjects especially devoting himself to their general education, and thus the sons of the Kurrachee traders obtained a higher degree of education than would otherwise have been possible under the then existing circumstances. Young Rustomjee was one of Major Frederick Goldsmid's favourite proteges, and his after career has certainly testified to the favour shown him. At fifteen years of age the promising youth entered into business for himself.

"Of course, it was in a small way," he said, "but it was in a general line—and then I made up my mind to become a wholesale merchant some day. My premises were a few brickbuilt houses.

"I suppose you were not able to employ many assistants then," I remarked. Mr. Rustomjee laughed hilariously.

"No, I had no assistance whatever—I was my own bookkeeper and correspondent; but in a very short time I was able to employ half-a-dozen hands."

Mr. Rustomjee was compelled to spend money in enlarging his premises and building others. This he did out of the profits of the original business. In five years the business had so extended that he was compelled to build larger warehouses and finally to erect his present premises, covering 10,000 square yards of space (Fig. 10), and one of the remarkable sights of commercial Kurrachee. The frontages are in the Itallian style, and the building is modelled after the Dresdner Bank of Berlin. The site of the wholesale warehouses and offices, which originally cost £25,000, is one of the finest in the commercial capital of Sind, occupying the point at which the two principal streets of the city converge; it is in the very heart of the business quarter, and is close to the banks and the custom-house, and the import and export yards. From the upper stories it commands a splendid view of the harbour, of the Manora fortifications, and of the city itself. On the subject of his superb building the arrangements of the many departments, and its administration, Mr. Rustomjee is justifiably enthusiastic. The great warehouse is palatial, and the interior organisation is framed on the most modern European plan. Inside over a mile and-a-quarter of tram rails are laid for the purpose of carrying goods to and from the department stores. Manchester nor any other of our great commercial cities can show anything more up-to-date.

Mr. Rustomjee leaves a widow and seven children to mourn his loss. His sons, Messrs. Rustomjee, Byramjee Cowasjee, Pestonjee Dhunjishaw and Sorabji Rustomjee, are nearly all well known in Bombay, but especially so are Messrs. Cowasjee and Dhunjishaw Rustomjee who are at present here. They have the sincere sympathies of the local community in their present affliction. All the sons are in the business with the exception of Mr. Pestonjee Rustomjee, who is a barrister and who married only a few days back. The daughter, Miss Soonabai Rustomjee is married to Mr. Pochaji Hormusjee Bomonji Jeejeebhoy, who conducts a mercantile business at Karachi.

GHARRY FARES IN BOMBAY.

REVISION OF SUBSIDIARY RULES.

CONCERNING proposed revision of the Subsidiary Rules for the hire of public conveyances in Bombay, the following Government notification was issued yesterday :—

No. 909.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 8th February 1899.

Letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 5563—40, dated the 31st July 1898—Stating that the victorias which are at present almost exclusively in use in Bombay as public land conveyances, and which were introduced in substitution of buggies after a great deal of opposition, though they fulfil the requirements if kept in order, have of late, partly in consequence of insufficient earnings and partly from other causes, somewhat deteriorated; that with a view to improve them he has had consultations with the principal owners, and that after considering their representations, he his is in favour of a revision of the rules and rates of fares for the hire of public conveyances in Bombay sanctioned by Government Resolution No. 3178, dated the 6th May 1885. Stating that when the tariff was revised in 1885, the fact was lost sight of that the fares then decided upon were rather for conveyances carrying two passangers and not three or four, for whom accomodation is provided for in the Victorias. Making remarks, and proposing that a rule may be issued to the effect that the fares laid down in the Table of fares for the conveyancy of two passengers only and that for a third passenger it will be raised by 1-4th and for a fourth by one half of the original rate. Proposing also that a provision should be made that for every article of luggage except such small articles as a passenger can himself carry an additional fee of one anna shall be levied and that the aggregate of such luggage to be carried be the number of passengers one or more shall in no case exceed lbs 100. Stating also that the owners of conveyances have further represented to him that the rule by which a person may engage a conveyance for half a day (5 hours) at Rs. 2-8 and for a whole (10 hours) at Rs. 4 is a very harsh one that they mentioned an instance in which three passengers engaged a conveyance for half a day at Rs. 2-8 and drove in it over a distance of 16 miles in four hours, and that in another case for the same fare four passengers were conveyed from the Fort to Mahim and back (16 1-2 miles) within 3 1-2 hours; that had the fares been calculated by distance, they would have been in either case Rs. 4 instead of Rs. 2 8: that besides the absurdly low fares for these distances, the cruelty to a horse having to drag a conveyance with four or five passengers (including the driver) 16 miles within the space of about 4 hours in a climate like that of Bombay, should also be taken into consideration. Suggesting, therefore, certain special rates according to passengers for the first two hours and additional rates for every hour or part of an hour following, subject among others, to the provisoes (i) that a conveyance may not be driven for more than one hour or 8 miles at a stretch, and that after every hour of driving there should be a rest of at least half an hour for the horse, and (iv) that no driver of a public conveyance can be compelled to let his conveyance by time if his horse is disabled in consequence of a recently performed tour.

Government letter to the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 5937, dated the 5th September 1898, as fellows :—

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 5563—40, dated the 31st ultimo, proposing a revision, in the following particulars, of the rates for the hire of conveyances in the town and suburbs of Bombay—

(i) for the raising of the fare in the case of more passengers than two carried in a victoria ;

(ii) for providing for a fixed charge for luggage, and

(iii) for the raising of the fare when the conveyance is engaged by time.

"2. As to proposal (i), I am to say that Government consider that you have made out a good case for the proposed change. It appears, however, that the meaning of the new rule which could be inserted as Rule 2 of the subsidiary rules published under Government Notification No. 3179, dated the 6th May 1885 (the original Rule 2 having been cancelled by Goverment Notification No. 5076 dated the 19th September 1892) would be plainer if the rule were worded somewhat as follows :—

The authorised fare is for the conveyance of two passengers only. For every passenger in excess of two one-fourth of the prescribed fare will be chargeable in addition."

"I am to inquire whether there is any objection to the proposed rule being issued in the above form and whether it correctly interprets your intention.

3. As to the proposal (ii), the Government in Council, I am to say, doubts the expediency of making a charge for luggage, since a hack victoria is often taken from a railway station for the conveyance of luggage alone, or for luggage plus the servant in charge, and the driver is glad to get his fare. His Excellency in Council believes that cases of the overloading of victorias with luggage are rare and is doubtful whether any rule in this respect can be devised which would work beneficially. I am further to point out that your present proposal is perhaps open to criticism in so far as it is based on the principle of charging simply by the number of packages carried irrespective of their weight and size and of the distance they are carried, while the exception in favour of small articles 'such as a passenger can himself carry' seems likely to engender disputes between the driver and his fare. Moreover on your present proposal there would be nothing to make it illegal for 100 lbs. weight of luggage being carried in addition to even 3 or 4 passengers, and I am to suggest for your consideration whether some alternative mode of levying a charge on luggage would be feasible, e. g. by providing that only a certain number of packages or a certain weight of luggage (say 140 lbs.) should be allowed for each passenger less than the full number which the vehicle is licensed to carry, and be charged for as an addional fare accordingly.

"4 As to (iii), you propose a new rule with four provisoes in substitution for Rules 2 and 3 now in force. But as Rule 2 was cancelled by Government Notification No. 5076 dated the 12th September 1892, it is probably intended that the Rules to be superseded are 3 and 4. Government, I am to say, concur generally, subject to the remark at the end of this paragraph in your opinion as to the advisability of making an alteration in the rates at present leviable when a public conveyance is engaged by time instead of by distance. But it is not stated whether your proposals are intended to modify that portion of Rule 4 which fixes a rate of 8 annas per hour for vehicles engaged and driven about in the Fort, as defined in the Rule. Such vehicles are generally driven only short distances with rests for the horses at intervals, and the considerations on which, are based the higher rates now proposed and provisoes (i) and (ii) of the proposed rule do not seem to apply or at any rate to such an extent. I am to enquire therefore, whether there is any objection to the latter portion of Rule 4 being retained. I am further to observe that half an hour's halt after every hour's drive appears to the Governor in Council rather a liberal allowance, and that proviso (iv) seems somewhat vaguely worded. If a driver's horse is disabled in consequence of a recently performed journey, it should presumably neither be hired by time nor by distance, and as Section 22 of Bombay Act VI of 1863 provides a penalty for a driver refusing to convey any person desirous of hiring his conveyance, it appears preferable to embody proviso (iv) in a general additional rule which might be added as Rule 10 and run as follows :—'No driver of a public conveyance shall be compelled to let his conveyance for hire by time or distance if his horse be in consequence of recent journeys in an unfit state to draw the conveyance for the required time or distance. The Governor in Council is, however, not convinced that it is necessary to have any fixed time fares at all, and I am to enquire whether the end in view could not be equally or better secured by providing that the authorised fares shall not apply to engagement by time which may be the subject of special agreement between the driver and the person engaging his vehicle."

Letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 9109—40, dated the 1st December 1898—Stating with reference to Government letter No. 5987, dated the 5th December 1898, that in the circumstances mentioned he has no objection to withdraw his proposal for providing fixed charges for luggage though, in his opinion, the overloading of conveyances with baggage in addition to passengers, which is not unusual, must be prevented in some way or other. Adding that he has also no objection to the withdrawal of his proposal regarding time fares, except for the Fortalone, in preference to the proposal that the authorised fares shall not apply to engagement by time which may be the subsect of special agreement between the driver and the person engaging his vehicle. Stating also that the wording of the new rule to be inserted in the Subsidiary Rules as Rule 2, as suggested in paragraph 2 of the Government letter under reply, will correctly interpret his intention. Inviting attention with reference to the remark in paragraph 4 of the Government letter under reply as regards Rule 2, to the fact that when it was cancelled, Rule No. 3 took its place and the Rules 3 and 4 of the old Rules are Rules 2 and 3 in the new Rules.

Resolution.—The following Notification should be published in the "Bombay Government Gazette" :—

The following revised Subsidiary Rules, which it is proposed to issue in substitution of the subsidiary rules sanctioned in Government Notification No. 3179, dated the 6th May 1885, as amended by Government Notification No. 5076, dated the 19th September 1892, are published for general information, and it is hereby notified that any objections to, or suggestions regarding, the proposed revised rules which are delivered in writing at the office of the Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department on or before the 31st March 1899, will be taken by the Governor in Counail into consideration ;—

1. In every case in which a public conveyance is called from a distance exceeding half a mile to take up a fare, two annas shall be paid in addition to the authorised fare.

2. The authorised fare is for the conveance of two passengers only. For every passenger in excess of two, one-fourth of the prescribed fare will be charged in addition.

The authorized fares shall not apply to engagement by time, which may be the subject of special agreement between the driver and the person engaging his vehicle—

Provided, however that within the boundaries of the Fort, as hereinafter specified there shall be an authorized time fare of eight annas per hour. For the purpose of this clause, the boundaries of the Fort to be as follows:—

North—From a point at the Gaiety Theatre to the Seashore East.

West Waudby and Mayo Roads, to the Secretariat.

South—From a point taken at the south end of the Secretariat Building to the Seashore, East.

East—The Sea face.

4. No fare for a Public Conveyance shall be less than four annas.

5. The "table of rates" of fares supplied to every driver of a public conveyance shall be kept clean and in good order in a receptacle made for that purpose in the front of the Conveyance.

6. Any person having cause to complain against the driver of a public conveyance may take such driver to the nearest Police Station, where a Police Officer will enquire into such complaint and, if possible, settle it. Such person may instead, however, take the driver before the nearest Magistrate then sitting.

7. Victorias are licensed to carry three, Shigrams four, Buggies and Hansoms two passengers.

8. The following to be the scale of charges for detention of conveyances :—

For any period over a quarter and up to half an hour, two annas.

For every succeeding half hour and fraction of a half an hour additional two annas.

9. No driver of a public conveyance shall be compelled to let his conveyance for hire by time or distance, if his horse be, in consequence of recent journeys, in an unfit state to draw the conveyance for the required time or distance.

OLD BOOTS AND NEW.

IT is evident from the great increase of chiropodists, said to be a very opulent class, that the modern bootmaker is not to be compared with his ancestor for skill. Nor is it the poor alone who have reason to complain. We have heard more than one very famous man beg to be excused on the ground that he had an appointment with his chiropodist. We turn, then, with a certain melancholy pleasure to this handsome volume, "The Boots and Shoes of our Ancestors." By W. H. Dutton. With numerous Illustrations in Collotype Chapman and Hall. in which Mr. Dutton, the Warden of the Worshipful Company of Crodwairnes, discourses with remarkable knowledge on the boots and shoes of our ancestors. No machine could possibly turn *them* out; judging by the admirable illustrations they are all that is elegant artistic, and useable. In these collectivist days boots and shoes are known as ones, twos, threes, and on wards; but in the good old times individual taste had free play (if it could pay for its fancy), and the boot and shoe maker was evidently an artist. We pause, for instance, quite by chance, to admire some dainty trifles from the Greig Collection, which we feel sure will cause our modern ladies some pangs of envy. This pretty thing once encased the tiny feet of a certain Miss Langley, who lived in the reign of Charles II. It is made of pale silk, and most beautifully embroidered. In the centre of the lace trimming, on the instep, is a single pearl. Here is the shoe of Lilias, daughter of the twelfth Earl of Eglinton which was worn by her on her marriage day. It is made of lavender silk, with slashes of white satin let in front, forming a pattern narrow at the toe and widening towards the instep. The bottom of the heel is in the form of a heart! The height of the heel is an inch, and the is pointed. It is an eighteenth century shoe. But shade of St. Crispin!—not all that is ancient is beautiful. Look at these chopines! What are they? "Chopines, perhaps the greatest of all monstrosities in feet attire, were of Eastern origin, and were originally worn in Turkey by the ladies of the sixteenth century. The fashion spread in Europe, and is alluded to by Hamlet: "Your ladyship is nearer heaven when I saw you last by the altitude of a chopine." Chopines were made of wood, and some were covered with leather of various colours. Many of them were curiously painted, others gilt. "Some attained so great a height as half a yard"; as a rule, the higher a woman's ranks, the higher her chopines." And—would you believe it?—the ladies were actually assisted and supported either by men or women when they walked abroad, to prevent them falling. The volume also contains some pleasant gossip about spurs, buckles, girdles, and other articles of wear. We commend it to the boot and shoe makers of the town.

BOMBAY LIGHT HORSE.

SQUADRON ORDERS.

Bombay, 14th February, 1899.

1. The Squadron will parade this morning (Wednesday 15th instant,) near the Queen's Statue, at 6-15 a.m. Dress—Drill order.

2. There will be drill in the Town Hall for all members this evening (Wednesday), from 5-30 p.m.

T. W. CUFFE, Capt.,
Commanding.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR G. W. ROUGHTON, A.D.C., COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 15th February, 1899.

1. The following drills will take place this week.—

No. 1 Company, Town Hall Compound

To-day and Friday at 9 p.m., 10in. R M L Gun drill, Gatacre Cup.

No. 2 Company, (Nesbit Road Head-quarters)

The "Gatacre Cup" team will parade on Friday next at 8-30 p.m.

There will be 10in R M L Gun drill to-morrow at 8-45 p.m.

2. There will be Class Firing at Coorla to-morrow. Train leaves the Victoria Terminus at 6 a.m. and Byculla at 6-12 a.m. (local time).

3. The Proficiency Class will meet at the Fort Head-quarters to-day after drill.

By Order,
A. J. PEILE, Capt., R. A.
Adjt. B. V. A.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LIEUT-COLONEL E. F. NICHOLSON, COMMANDING, B. V. R.

Bombay, 15th February, 1899.

1. The Commanding Officer has to announce with deep regret the death of Capt. J. P. Cornforth on Board the s. s. Caledonia at Marseilles on the 11th February. Capt. Cornforth served with the Bombay Vol. Rifles since 1885 and was a most efficient and zealous officer.

The Commanding officer desires as a mark of respect to Capt. Cornforth's memory, all officers of the corps when in uniform to wear mourning on the left arm for one month from this day.

2. The Regiment will parade at the Matunga Railway Station at 4 p.m. on Saturday the 18th instant for out post duty.

2. Ten rounds of blank ammunition per man will be issued on parade. Pouches to be inspected on falling in.

3. Attendance on this parade to count 3 points towards the Commanding Officer's prizes.

4. Special carriages will be attached to the train leaving Victoria Terminus at 3-30 p.m. Bombay time Railway fares will be paid for those joining this train at Victoria Terminus Musjid, Mazagon, Byculla, Parel and Dadur Stations. Members travelling from other stations by the B. B. and C. I. Railway will pay their own fares which will be refunded.

3. Leave of absence has been granted to Vol. R C Kealing C Company from 7th February to 3rd March.

4. The following is the result of the Nicholson Cup Competition fired for at Coorla on the 16th and 14th instant—D Company 359 points, B Company 307 points, and F Company 212 points.

5. Regimental Order No. 3 of 7th February 1899 is amended as follows. The Cadet Match will be fired as under—

Two teams of L Company and one team of J Company on Thursday the 23rd February.

Two teams of K Company and one team of J Company on Saturday the February.

By Order,
C. MOSS, Captain,
Adjutant, B. V. R.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

TUESDAY EVENING, FEB. 14.

CONSOLS advanced 1-8 per cent in London yesterday to 111 3-8. French Rentes were unchanged at 103; while Paris Exchange on London declined 1-2 centime, to 25-19 fcs. Indian Sterling Loan remained at 116 1-2, and 3 1-2 per cent Rupee Securities at £65 7-8. Exchange on India at 30 days' sight was unaltered at 1s 3 7-8d. Discount on Short donon Bills at 3 months' sight was quoted at 2 1-8 per cent, and on 6 months' sight Indian Bank Bills at 2 1-4 per cent. Bar Silver was unchanged at 27 1-2d. per oz. The quotation for Braziers Copper was £83.

For Cownpore Yellow Rapeseed 35 1-4s per 416 lbs was puoted, February March shipment, to Haure, Antwerp, and Dunkirk, sellers via the Canal, in a quiet market; for Brown Rapeseed, 33 1-2s. per 416 lbs., February March shipment, to Antwerp sellers via the Canal, market quiet.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed with a strong feeling last evening; Surats and Arrivals were quiet. The day's Sales were 10,000 bales; and the Imports, 23,000 bales. Spot Mid-Americans advanced 1-8d. per lb., and East Indians 1-32d; American Arrivals were 3-64 to 1-16d. higher, extreme quotations being 3 23-64d and 3 25-64d for February and June-July deliveries, respectively. The Manchester Market closed strong.

In sympathy with the Liverpool Cotton Market our local market for the staple has been strong in tone today with a fair enquiry, and an advance in prices of Rs. 2 per candy all round. Exporters bought 200 bales Khandwa at Rs 137, 350 Bhatwa at Rs. 141 to Rs 141 1-2. 200 Khangaum at Rs 133, 100 Bengal at Rs 132 1-2, 200 Oojein at Rs 131, 200 Mowa at Rs. 142, 200 Bhatwa at Rs 142 1-2; and the Mills purchased 250 Dhamangaon at Rs 131, 150 Nagr at Rs 126, 100 Khandwa at Rs 135, 200 Khandwa at Rs. 137, 200 Khangaon at Rs 133, 100 Bhatwa at Rs 142, 200 Khangaon at Rs 134.

WHEAT and SEEDS continue quiet and unchanged.

The Receipts of produce into Bombay on Sunday and yesterday were as follows :—

Cotton	21,617	bales.
Wheat	12,007	cwts.
Linseed	13,033	"
Rapeseed	7,997	"
Gingellyseed	18,032	"
Groundnuts	2,150	"
Castorseed	7,910	"
Rice	56,286	"

FREIGHTS are quiet and steady.

EXCHANGE.—Rates opened at 1s. 4 1-32d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 4 3-16d. for three months' sight Credits. Business was on a very small scale all round, no transactions of importance being reported. The market closed quiet as follows :—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s. 4 1-32d.	per rupee.
" Telegraphic	1s. 4 1-32d.	"
Credits 3 months' sight	1s. 4-3-16d.	"
Francs	1·70 1-2	"

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—There has been a strong feeling in the market, and rates after opening at 98 3-4 and 98 13-16 for 3 1-2 per cents, for Money and Account, respectively, advanced 3-16 per cent, in both positions, to 98 15-16 and 99; for Threes 92 was quoted.

SHARES.—Currimbhoy Mills are Rs. 7 1-2 higher; Manockjee Petit and Queen, Rs. 2 1-2 each.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE B I S N Co's s s Coconada, 547 tons, Captain S Hartley, arrived in harbour yesterday from Calcutta 2nd February with a cargo of coal.

THE B I S N Co's s s Chindwara, 1,501 tons, Captain W H Watkeys, arrived in harbour yesterday from Bahrein 5th February, with a general cargo.

THE B I S N Co's s s Abra, 3496 tons Captain G Brown, arrived in harbour yesterday from Calcutta 3rd February with a cargo of 7828 tons of coal.

THE Clan Line s s Clan Graham, 1,857 tons, Captain D Cameron, arrived in harbour yesterday from Delagoa Bay 24th January in ballast. The vessel is consigned to Messrs Finlay Muir and Co.

THE B I S N Co's s s Canara, 1,216 tons, Captain E Stabb, R N R, arrived in harbour yesterday from Zanzibar 26th January, with a general cargo and Mr P F Thomas, Mr Maneckial Bhogilal and 176 deck passengers.

THE Wilson Line s s Castello, 2,338 tons, Catpain W Gresham, arrived in harbour on Monday evening from Hull 12th January with a general cargo and the following passengers: Mr J Douglas, Mr W Bushnal and Mr J Halliday. The vessel is consigned to Messrs Finlay Muir and Co.

THE B I S N Co's s s Kola, 497 tons, Captain J W Livingstone, arrived in harbour yestday from Karachi 11th February with a general cargo and the following passengers: Lieutenant Niblock, Mrs Tindal and child, Mr Roberts, Mr Godgel and 79 deck.

VESSELS IN THE HARBOUR.—FEB. 14.

Vessels.	Tons.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agent.
Sutlej	2143	Symons			P & O Co
H M S Racoon		Hewett			Royal Navy
India	2591	Robertson			M M & Co
Wanderer ship	2717	Tupman			Standard Oil Co
Golden Cross	1944	Miller			A Montochoff
Naseri	912	Raffin			B & P S N Co
Ceylon		Channer			I L Service
Activ	867	Anderson	Marseilles		Bombay Co
Ariel	994	Rafin			Bombay Co
Melbridge	1855	Herbert			J M & Co
Khandalla	1318	Whitehead	P Gulf		M M & Co
Nadir	2041	Sandilands	Calcutta		T M & Co
Dragoman	2214	Waters			K N & Co
Venus	2320	Marshall			W & A G & Co
Courtfield	2146	Sheldrick			Bombay Co
R Harrowing	1299	Bougey			Bombay Co
Terrier	1008	Kawasjard			
Fazilka	2637	Goss			M M & Co
Caithness	2222	Proud			K N & Co
Clan Graham	1857	Cameron			F M & Co
Coconada	547	Hartley			M M & Co
Chindwara	1501	Watkeys			Do
Oanara	1216	Stabb			Do
Obra	3495	Brown			Do
Kola	497	Livingstone			Do

VESSELS IN DOCKS.—FEBRUARY 14.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Shed.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agent.
A	Clan Ross	1654	Dickson		28-2	F M & Co
B	Castello	2339	Gresham	Hull		F M & Co
C	Bombay	2063	Turner	Aden	18-2	J M & Co
E	Annie	2145	Gruht	Dunkirk	16-2	Bombay Co
F	Camorta	1351	Magenis	Rangoon	18-2	M M & Co
G	Setos	1153	Jacob	Zanzibar	17-3	F Heyer
H&J	Hiroshima Maru	2031	Tonji	Japan	22-2	N Y Kaisha
M	Simla	1039	Robertson	P Gulf	13-2	M M & Co
P	Sirdhana	2074	Smith	Zanzibar	18-2	M M & Co
Q	Clan Fraser	1370	Oliver	Havre	16-2	F M & Co

HARBOUR WALL.

Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agent.
Ponani	532	Ahmed	Bhownagar	14-2	Shprd & Co
Indravati	513	Adam	Mangalore	17-2	Do
Mahanadi	547	Fuckeer	G Port	16-2	Do

VICTORIA DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
2	Egypt	4179	Langbourne	Aden	18-2	P & O S N Co
3	Singapore	2432	Pizzarello	Genoa	2-3	F Baldovin
5	Chusan	2852	Street	China	15-2	P & O Co
6	Peninsular	3047	Wheeler	London	25-2	P & O SN Co
7	Elax	2612	Baker	Trieste		W & A G & Co
8	Vindobona	2989	Bellen	Trieste		A L S N Co
9	Imaum	2706	Pemberthy	Antwerp	17-2	K N & Co
10	Haddon Hall	2677	Hood	Karachi		K N & Co
12	Ujina	3426	Withers			M M & Co

*Probable date of departure.

Time Ball drops at Prince's Dock at Noon, or Greenwich meantime, 7h. 8m. 44·38.
The Time Ball over the Clock Tower at the Bombay Castle continues to be dropped regularly at 1 p.m. of Colaba mean time, or 8h. 8m. 44·30 of Greenwich meantime.

ARRIVALS.

Feb.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
13	Castello s	Gresham	Hull, Jan 12
14	Coconada s	Hartley	Calcutta, Feb 2
	Chindwara s	Watkeys	Bahrein, Feb 5
	Clan Graham s	Cameron	Delagoa Bay, Jan 20
	Canara s	Staff	Zanzibar, Jan 26
	Obra s	Brown	Calcutta, Feb 3
	Kola s	Livingstone	Karachi, Feb 11

DEPARTURES

Feb.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
14	Indus s	Chevalier	Marseilles
	Dwarka s	Tice	Karachi, etc.

DIVINE SERVICE.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

SAINT PETER'S MAZAGON.
7 a.m.—Holy Eucharist and Communication Service.
9-30 a.m.—Matins and Address to Children.
5 p.m.—Evensong.
8 p.m.—Litany, Sermon and Miserere.

ST. JOHN THE EVENGELIST, COLABA.
(Afghan Memorial Church.)
7-30 a.m.—Litany.
8 a.m.—Holy Communion.
11 a.m.—Mattins and Commination Service.
7 p.m.—Evensong and Address. Hymns 92 and 91.

MISSION CHURCH, GIRGAUM.
6 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon by Rev W A Robrts.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

EUROPE.

DEATH.

MUNDAY—February 7, at Litoham Norfolk, England, David Munday, late Surgeon, H. M.'s Indian Army, and father of Dr. James Munday, Bombay, aged 76 years. (By telegram.)

KURRACHEE.

DEATH.

RUSTOMJEE—February 12, at Kurrachee, H. J. Rustomjee, of heart disease. Very deeply regretted.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTH.

SPOONER—February 11, at No. 10, Elysium Row, Calcutta, the wife of H B Spooner, of a daughter, still-born.

MARRIAGE.

PEARCE—HOLT—February 7, at St Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, by the Rev A J Luckman, Charles Marshall Pearce, of the East Indian Railway, son of the late Robert Webb Pearce, to Emilie, youngest daughter of the late William Holt, of Acton, London.

DEATH.

WELLS—February 7, at Bankura, Phoebe Julia, the dearly beloved wife of S Baily Wells, of Raniganj.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1899.

WHEN Reuter telegraphed that the chairman of the London County Council had delivered himself of certain *obiter dicta* respecting the Indian debt, and declared that an Imperial guarantee would earn the blessings of English capitalists and bankers, we had a shrewd suspicion that this deliverance was really made by the chairman of the London and County Bank. On communicating that surmise to a Bombay banking authority we were assured that the chairman of any London bank would think three times before committing himself to opinions on a matter so entirely beyond his province, and distinctly within the province of the Government, whose functions no responsible City man would venture to trench upon. Now we have it on the authority of the Telegraph administration that "for chairman London County Council we must read chairman of the London and County Bank." The impossible was exactly what happened. The Banker had discoursed on the subject of Indian Finance as if he were Lord George Hamilton or Sir James Westland, and laid down propositions which those authorities could not have enumerated off-hand to save their lives. It would no doubt be convenient if capitalists in Lombard Street could deal with Indian securities as if they were consols, now that consols are becoming scarce as the dodo in London, owing to the automatic reduction of the National Debt year by year, while the Government Departments and Savings Banks annually increase their investments in that form of security. Capital is so abundant in Great Britain that two per cent. on Government paper is sought after. Capital being less abundant in India no one could afford to lock any of it up in stock yielding only two or even three per cent. For political reasons the Government of India would be very ill advised to so arrange matters that little or none of its stock would find purchasers in this country, and that the interest on it would have to be sent to Europe year in year out. That would be the inevitable result if an Imperial guarantee were to bring about a considerable reduction of the interest payable on Indian stock, which is the inducement held out when the advantages to India of such a guarantee are insisted on. But then Indian stock would not yield a return to tempt the Indian investor. The trust funds on which so many public charities, educational institutions, and private families are dependent for income, would cease to yield even half the revenue counted upon when they were instituted. The dauntless political economist might of course argue that such considerations should not count when it is a question of getting money in the cheapest markets so as to save the taxpayer one per cent, more or less, on the loans raised by Government. But every tyro knows that the taxes spent in the country where they are raised do not impoverish, the money is simply transferred from one pocket to another. That is the secret of the case with which France raises £140,000,000 annual taxation, and yet grows richer, not poorer, as the years go on. The money is spent in France. If the milliard, £40,000,000—in sterling—paid annually in interest on the frightful debit of £1,200,000,000, were sent abroad not even French industry and frugality could long support the strain. A certain proportion of French rentes are held in other countries; but that is a matter of small moment so long as the greater part of it is held by French investors and the greater part of the annual milliard goes back into French pockets. That is practically the state of things at present with regard to Indian Government securities; the major part of the interest goes into the pockets of the Natives of India. In so far as an Imperial guarantee, if effective in considerably reducing the interest on Indian paper, would materially alter that state of things, it would be very doubtful wisdom to accept such a guarantee, "with all its consequences." The last shred of independence and initiative would be stripped from the Government of India by the inquisitorial supervision of Treasury clerks in London.

THE publication of the police reports of the various divisions in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1897 reveals a still further increase in crime, which runs through all the divisions. The chief contributing causes are famine, the generally high prices of grain, and the difficulty experienced in adequately guarding property in houses and villages evacuated in connection with plague operations. The Central Division is mainly responsible for the increase; the famine and plague were acutely felt here; at the same time, in Bijapur, where the famine was extremely severe, there is a satisfactory diminution of crime, a result which may be partially attributed to efficient famine administration. Statistics show that the more serious offences of murder, attempted murder, culpable homicide, and dacoities have very largely increased, the last mentioned crime being nearly 90 per cent. more than in the previous year. While it may be accepted that famine and pestilence are factors in influencing the committal of minor offences, they do not incite people to murder and kindred outrages, and we are inclined to accept the opinion set forth in the Report that timely-preventive measures were not taken as thoroughly or actively as they should have been against the criminal classes, who in consequence got out of hand and gave much trouble." At the same time it should be borne in mind that the police were compelled to perform unusually heavy work in consequence of plague and famine. There is one blot on the year's record of police work in the Central Division—the cowardly conduct of the police in the Tisgaon dacoity. It will be remembered that about a dozen dacoits from the Moglai attacked the village, and though there were present at the time three head constollas and eight others, most of whom were armed, they allowed the marauders to loot a Marwadi's house without endeavouring to prevent the raid. The robbers got away untouched, but it is satisfactory to know the three head constables were dismissed and five of the constables reduced. In Khandesh the increase of crime was most pronounced. The enormous number of undetected cases of dacoity and house-breaking is unsatisfactory, and points to the fact that the extra work involved by the plague left them with insufficient time to investigate the complaints. Special stress is placed on the necesaty of putting into operation section VIII. of the Criminal Procedure Code, which empowers magistrates to deal with men of evil repute though evidence of their actual participation is not forthcoming. Large as this power was originally it has been made more comprehensive by a recent Act.

A gang of Pathans in Hubli and Gadag, in Dharwar district, during the past three years committed six big dacoities. The robbers were ostensibly cloth merchants, but in reality very daring dacoits, of whom, according to the words of the District Superintendent of Police, "the police are in terror of them and infinitely prefer to avoid rather than question or gainsay them. . . . They have no fear of death, are absolutely reckless and daring, and treat the ordinary native as beneath contempt and the district police with vile contumely." It is certainly not to the credit of the Dharwar police that the notorious gang should have been permitted to reside so long at Hubli and Gadag and systematically commit without let or hindrance depredations on a large scale in every direction. It is incredible that no information or rumour should have reached the ears of the police. Mr. C. B. Winchester, the Acting Commissioner of the Southern Division, commends the efforts of Mr. Holland to free the district of these budmashes, and points out that the limited use of Chapter VIII. in Bijapur "is attributed to the apathy on the part of the police as well as the magistracy, which is regrettable and should be checked." In regard to statistics for the Presidency, robberies rose from 248 to 406, house-breaking increased from 2,441 to 3,694, and thefts from 4,610 to 7,116. Wherever there are thieves there are also receivers, and this class of criminals has gone up nearly 30 per cent. The figures relating to property show a large increase in the amount of property stolen during the year under report, *viz.*, Rs. 12,27,677 as against Rs. 8,44,040 in 1896. The amount of property recovered was Rs. 5,71,175 as compared with Rs. 3,38,450 or a percentage of 39·89 against 32 in the preceding year. Property was stolen in 12,309 cases and recovered in 8,719, giving a percentage of 70·83 as against 68·11 in the preceding year. Offences under the Excise Laws have increased from 1,234 to 2,033, and advances are also observed under the Opium, and Salt and Customs Acts. The causes assigned as the reason for this increase are somewhat conflicting, but the increase is probably chiefly due to the police having their hands so full with famine and plague duties and the large amount of crime generally to be dealt with, that they had not sufficient time to efficiently patrol and keep a watch over this class of offences. The total number of licences issued or renewed for dealing in arms and ammunition, or possessing such, has again increased from 19,354 to £20,459. The fact that these licenses are ever increasing has been adversely commented upon by the Superintendents, and there can be no doubt that the number of licences in force to possess arms is much in excess of the necessities of the case. They are a source of danger to the community, for they are apt to fall into the hands of criminal and bad characters, as, for instance, the men implicated in the Poona murders.

THE weekly report on the state of the season and prospects of the crops shows that in the Bombay presidency slight rain fell in two talukas of the Upper Sind Frontier. The standing crops have been damaged by frost in parts of three districts of Sind, by white ants in one taluka of Thar and Parkar, and by rats in one taluka of Bijapur. Jowari has been injured by drought in one taluka of Poona, and wheat in one taluka of Dharwar by excessive wind. Reaping of the late crops is progressing in twelve and preparations for next season in six districts. Cotton-picking continues in parts of Gujarat and Kathiawar. Fodder is sufficient except in parts of Sind, and agricultural stocks are generally healthy. Prices have risen in five and have fallen in five districts. In Madras some rain fell and the water-supply is generally sufficient, the harvest outturn being fair to normal. Up to the present, however, pasturage is scarce, though, there being generally sufficient fodder, the condition of cattle is normal. Bengal prospects are favourable though in three districts much damage has been done by hail. The N.-W. Provinces require more rain in parts for crops, which so far are doing well, while in the Punjab owing to continuous dry weather prices show a tendency to rise. Central Provinces spring crops are suffering for want of rain. In Rajputana, where the famine still prevails, no rain fell during the week. Irrigation of crops continues and the state of the crops is generally good, but they have been slightly damaged by frost in a few villages of Ajmere. Cattle are generally in good condition, though fodder is scarce in parts of eight districts and prices are rising in Ulwar and Jhallawar, though they are fluctuating in Kotah, falling in Meywar, and are steady elsewhere. Distress is spreading and increasing, for emigration from the distressed Ajmere villages and from Merwara continues, 71 persons having left during the week. The total emigration from Merwara up to date amounts to 3,963 persons, whilst the number of persons in receipt of famine relief is now 4,717.

MR. GOSCHEN, the First Lord of the Admiralty, has apparently been heckled in the House of Commons as to the utility of Wei-hai-wei. When it was leased to Great Britain by the Peking Convention of July last, it had forts commanding the harbour which are quickly being converted into batteries of modern type and requirements, and armed in the strongest possible manner. The city is on the Shantung promontory, about forty miles ea of Chefoo, is nearly opposite Port Arthur—a fact which adds considerably to its value, and at the same time renders strong fortifications imperative, that it may securely protect the vessels which shall command the Gulf of Pechili. Numerous small islands and a belt of land ten miles wide along the coast-line of the bay went with the port. It was for the protection of these and the proper manning of the forts that the Hongkong regiment was recently formed. Those who live there do not seem enamoured of the place; it was only the other day that a local correspondent declared that in time of war Wei-hai-wei would be worse than useless. The writer, however, pre-supposed that a breakwater was not to be built for the shelter of torpedo-boats and the protection of ships from torpedoes. The island as well as the ten-mile strip is to be fortified and efficient breakwaters are to be built. Portions of the business end of the town are required for military purposes, and to effect the changes deemed desirable it will be necessary to buy out the Chinese residents and provide for them new quarters before the projected fortifications can be constructed. These with the breakwaters will palpably mean extensive as well as costly operations, and cannot be finished in a few months. But we are assured by Mr. Goschen that the work is proceeding apace, and that further proposals in the subject are shortly to be laid before Parliament.

THE Presidency plague returns published in another column show a further increase in both attacks and deaths, the numbers having gone up from 2,672 and 2,228 to 2,912 and 2,275, an increase of 240 attacks and 47 deaths. In Bombay city the figures sprung up from 611 and and 543 to 837 and 667. Karachi city shows a tendency to increase, whilst Poona, which had been free this week, returns four attacks and two deaths. Increases on the previous week's returns are also noticeable in the returns of the Panch Mahals, Surat district, Nasik, Kolaba, Dharwar, Kanara, Cutch, Janjira. Aundh and Bhor. Kolhapur returns are alarming. We had been led to believe that plague measures there were proving successful. The success is measured by the figures, which in a week have more than doubled. From 179 the attacks have leapt up to 377 and the deaths from 132 to 263. Broach, Thana, Poona district, Satara, Sholapur, Ahmednagar, Belgaum and Bijapur districts and Baroda state give diminished figures, whilst in Karachi city, Kaira, and Khandeish things remain pretty much as they were; Karachi district, Hyderabad, Shikarpur, Upper Sindh Frontier, Thar and Parkar, Mahi Kantha, Savuntvadi, Dharampur, Sachin, Akalkot and Savarur being entirely free. Three hundred and fifty-two villages are now infected a decrease of four on the week. The Railway inspection reports show 16 cases detected, of which eight proved fatal, totals of 79 and 45, since the work commenced in October last. The Port returns, we learn, are included in the Modikhana hospital figures, but beyond this it is not at all probable we shall be able to learn much.

THE annual prize-giving to the successful pupils attending the Bombay Scottish Education Society's Schools took place last evening at the Town Hall, the Hon. Mr. Justice Russell presiding. The Rev. Mr. Gray read the annual report on the working of the Schools; and the Rev. Dr. Mackichan, in proposing the adoption of the report said that it was very gratifying to notice that even during a year of trouble, the schools had been able to show satisfactory results, and that the receipts were in excess of the expenditure. The schools had been working for the good of an important section of the community; and Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald deserved their warmest acknowledgments for the labour they had bestowed for a long series of years upon the education of the young people of the community.

THE first entries received for the Bombay Horse and Dog show are encouraging. In the Dog show 90 different dogs have been entered out of a total of 125, and in the Horse show there are 374 entries. Some classes have produced very poor entries but we hope to see this remedied before Thursday next the date of the Final entry.

THE Plague Commission continued its inquiry at the Secretariat, yesterday, when six more witnesses were examined.

MR. A. B. Gale, Executive Engineer, P. W. Dr at Lucknow, has been bitten in the hand by his fox terrier, which afterwards developed symptoms of rabies. He proceeds to Paris to the Pasteur Institutes.

THE goods traffic on the B. B. and C. I. Railway for the week ending 21st January 1899 shows an increase on the corresponding week of 1898, of 81,801 maunds, and Rs. 39,488 in the earnings.

THE Rawalpindi District Assau't-at-Arms takes place on the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th instants. Over Rs. 3,000 have been subscribed for prizes, and the meeting promises to be a great success.

MR. STRANACK, Bombay, manager of the Commercial Bank of India, Limited, yesterday received a telegram from his Head Office, stating that at a General Meeting of Shareholders held in Madras, a dividend of 8 per cent. per annum was declared.

THERE is an epidemic of small box in Rangoon. Cases are reported in every street in the town chiefly among immigrants from southern India. The hospitals are full. and new hospital sheds have been erected. Tha Resident, Surgeon Captain Duer, is down with a slight attack.

THE following changes in location of depots have been sanctioned, movements to be carried out by rail:—Depot 19th Punjab Infantry, Sialkot to Jhelum; Depot 30th Punjab Infantry, Peshawar to Jhelum; Depot 37th Dogras, Sialkot to Peshawar. The depot of the 37th Dogras now moves from Sialkot on the 8th March, instead of the 28th February as previously arranged.

A FRESH case of plague occurred at Rahon on the 10th instant. It is during this month that the disease may be expected to reach its greatest intensity, and if it can only be kept in hand for another fortnight or so, anything like a serious development of it is not likely, as with the advance of warmer weather the disease should, on the experience of last year, rapidly subside.

RAIN-GAMBLING seems to be spreading to the Punjab, and is specially popular in Delhi, where regular gambling shops, are in existence for the registering of bets. The practice became so prevalent in Bombay, some ten years ago, that in 1890, it was found necessary to legislate against it. The Bengal Legislative Council was obliged to follow suit seven years later, and we believe the matter is now engaging the attention of the Punjab Legislative Council.

Thirty million visiting-cards, according to the French postal returns, passed through the Post Office in the first week of January. The New Year's visiting-card (says a Paris Correspondent), is one of the survivals of old-fashioned French politeness, and one that will die hard. Fashionable society has for some seasons attempted to kill it, and seemed in a way to do so in the beginning of '96 and '97, but the thirty millions of visiting-cards the Postmaster General speaks of shows a strong reaction. The visiting card on the first of January keeps at small expense doors open that might otherwise be closed. It is an easy way to revive old acquaintanceships. Sending a card on the 1st of January is not intrusive. Custom sanctions it. The illustrated Christmas Card does not take in Paris. It is thought too frivolous, too namby-pamby, to smack too much of conventual sentiment as shown in meretricious love of prettiness.

The Doctor Carl Peters, the boat which carries the name of the German explorer, and which is destined for Lake Victoria Nyanza, in Africa, has made a tour of the Lake of Zurich with the engineers of the makers Escher Wyss & Co., and invited guests on board. This boat, which had its trial trip on July 20. in presence of German Commissioners delegated by the Minister of the Navy, is of aluminum. The conditions of the contract prescribed that no single part of the boat should weigh over 160 kilograms (352 pounds) and this condition could not be fulfilled with any other metal. The boat is 1·3 metres (43 feet) long, 2·7 metres (9 feet) wide, and 1-45 metre (5 feet) deep. It may be detached into nine separate sections. The two boilers are independent of each other. and are for burning only wood. The boat can carry fifty persons. In a short time it is to be taken apart, packed into cases, and sent to the East Coast of Africa. There they will be received by a caravan of negroes, escorted by troops of the Protectorate, and transported into the interior. It is estimated that this transport column will take four months to reach Victoria Nyanza. The Doctor Carl Peters makes about 16 kilometres (10 miles) an hour, and the engine runs at the high speed of 850 revolutions per minute. She cost of the boat is, in round figuers, £2,000.

As a result of the investigations of Professor Buchnar, of Tubingen, another of the fetiches of old chemistry is destroyed, namely, that living cells are necessary to fermentation. Professor Buchner, according to Science, grinds yeast with quartz sand in order to disrupt the cells, and submits the moist mass to a pressure of 500 atmospheres. The liquid contents of the cells are entirely removed and the cells totally disrupted, The filtered liquid is of a clear or slightly opalescent, yellowish colour, retains the odour of yeast, contains considerable carbon dioxide and some albumen. Most interesting is the behaviour of the yeast juice toward sugars fermentation being set up much more quickly than by yeast, and proceeding much faster. The gas evolved is almost pure carbon dioxide When carefully dried at a low temperature the formenting principle is not destroyed and it is possible that when desicated the activity of the farment may be preserved indefinitely.

THE physiological effects of smoking cigarette made of tea are very graphically described by a devotee. The feeling in the mouth, he says, is peculiar, but so is the taste of an ordinary cigarette to the beginner. It is not, he adds, as disagreeable as night be supposed, but the result in a tyro is to bring about a sense of thickening of the head, and a disposition to take hold of something or to sit down, symptoms which have also been noted in the early stageo of nicotine poisoning. If the trial be persevered with, the thickening feeling gives place to one of intense exhilaration, which, however, only lasts as long as the smoke—in fact, it ends in smoke. The after-effects are said to be too dreadful, the agony of the opium smoke being but a shadow to that of the victim of tea cigarettes. There is utter loss of appetite, despondency, with more or less muscular tremor, and it is some hours before the repentant sinner begins to revive

OLIVER Strange of Arundel Street, Strand, was summoned for publishing a lottery scheme in a paper called "Stories," and with keepinga lottery office, Mr. Muskett said tuat the defendant had publsshed in this paper a scheme for what was called a birthday competition. in which a £10 prize was offered, Persons were to send the date of their birth, and the prize would be given to the one horn on the day written by defendant on a sheet of paper enclosed in a sealed envelope and deposited with his bankers, Other prizes were offered, That defendant had stoppsd this class os competition, and he was convicted as a rogue and a vagabond, and fined, including costs, £135 with an alteranative of one month's hard labour,

DR. GUERARD, the special expert appointed by the New York Legislature to examine into the spread of tuberculosis in New York, has made a startling report showing the communicability of the disease in what corresponds to the Whitechapel district of London. Of 663 houses, there were 248 in which consumption was found, being in three years 541 cases. Many of these houses had had cases every year for three consecutive years. Dr. Guerard's conclusion is that houses badly infected should be torn down to prevent the spread of the disease. In the entire city during the past five years nearly 23 per cent, of all the houses had inmates who died from tuberculosis.

THE 'Turkestan Gazette' states that the extension of the Central Asia Railway to the post of Kushk produced a strong impression on the population of the province of Herat, and the heads of the heads of the local administration addressed themselves to the Ameer Abdurrahman to ask his help and advice. The Ameer immediately caused a proclamation to be posted up, reassuring the people and recommending them to continue tranquilly to pursue their ordinary avocations, since the construction of the Russian railway to Kushk was but the result of the Czars solicitude for the good organisation of his States, and was not intended in any way to menace, offend, or injure the Afghan people.

THE etiquette of the Bar has often been spoken of as the unwritten rules of the profession. It will not be long before this description becomes out of date. The opinion ot the Bar Council is constantly being invited as to points of etiquette, and the answers of the Council are gradually reducing the etiquette of the Bar to a code. The incorporated Law Society lately invited the Bar Council to express an opinion with reference to the duty of a barrister to return his fees where he has been briefed on the distinct understanding that he will give his personal attention to the case throughout, and has failed to do this. Nobody will be surprised to learn that the Bar Council are of opinion that such a barrister ought to return his fees, since he breaks an essential part of the terms of his employment. It would be even more interesting, however. to have the opinion of the Bar Council on the duty of a barrister to return his fees when he fails to attend the trial without having made any distinct promise to attend it. May it not be said that the acceptance of his fees amounts in every case to an implied premise to give his personal attention to the case?

COUNT THUN, the Austrian Premier, says a correspondent, is waiting for the solution of the Hungarian crisis, as, learning by experience, he came to the conclusion that for a solution of the Austrian crisis—that is, practically, for a settlement of the languages question—it is necessary first to get rid of the questions connected with the Ausgleich. The plan is again to adjourn the Reichsrath as soon as matters have come to a solution in Hungary, and to proclaim the extension of the Ausgleich in Austria; if possible, till the end of 1,903, on the strenght of Article 14 of the Constitution, with thoy proviso that the proclamation would loose its validit as soon as Ausgleich Bills before the House passed into law in the regular way. Shortly after thus disposing of the Ausgleich matter, Count Thun would invite the leaders of his majority to meet the leaders of the Germans, for another attemt—the last one under Count Taaffe, was early in the nineties—at a settlement of the Language Question, either for Bohemia alone or for the whole of Cisleithania.

ABOUT two years have passed sinc Messrs' Richards publication of Mr W. J. Stillmans book of essays 'Old Rome and New" etc, we believe that the promise or hint made in it of an autobiography is in proces of fulfilment. Born seventy years ago in New York, Mr. Stillman has lived a full and varied life as art student art critic' traveller, newspaper correspondent, and writer of books. We may expect from him many a pleasant description of the literarp life as he saw it more than forty years ago, and more, in America, of the Adirondacks Club for example, and the camp by Tuppers lake. A vigorous re-exposition of his theory of Art may also be looked for Mr. Stillman is a strong and eloquent anti-" Naturalist." His art is idealism. For him the French, with their "triumphant technique are "barren" folk. The detailed and systematic record of his experiences as a correspondent would be a valuable contribution to the Eastern question.

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

LONDON, FEB. 14.

Yesterday's semi-official note issued in Paris appears to overstate the facts of the understanding arrived at.

It is now stated that Great Britain and France have agreed to mutual free transit, through their respective territories, whilst the French are anxious to obtain one or two points on the Nile like the Belgians possess at Rejaf.

PLAGUE MEASURES IN THE TRANSVAAL.

ASIATICS EXCLUDED.

Owing to the case of plague at Middlebury, the Transvaal Government has taken stringent measures to restrict the admission into Transvaal territory of Asiatics from Asia, Mauritius, and Madagascar.

THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The American forces bombarded and took Iloilo on Saturday last.

The insurgents fired the town before evacuating, but the Americans, on landing, speedily extinguished the flames.

No casualties are reported on the side of the attacking force.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

The French Senate has referred the Dreyfus Bill to a Committee.

HEAVY GALES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

STEAMERS OVERDUE.

FEB. 13.

Continual heavy gales are raging over the British Isles and from many parts come reports of wrecks and floods and of a tidal wave.

The outward bound Cunard steamer Pavonia is now a fortnight overdue and was last reported as drifting in a helpless condition.

The Hamburg liner Bulgaria is likewise overdue.

SEVERE WEATHER IN AMERICA.

A blizzard and unprecedented cold are reported from America.

None of the European regular weekly steamers have yet arrived.

TERRIFIC WEATHER IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

DISASTERS AT SEA.

LOSS OF LIFE.

The weather reports from all quarters are extraordinarily hard to reconcile. Friday was the hottest February day for fifty years. The month has been uniformly hotter than the past July. The throat and chest hospitals, both public and private, are crowded. On the other hand, the United States report a temperature of six degrees below zero. New York Harbour is ice-bound, and steamers arrive thickly encrusted with ice.

Lake Michigan is frozen almost entirely for the first time for twenty-five years.

Terrible hurricanes are reported from the Atlantic. The Hamburg liner Bulgaria is drifting helplessly 800 miles from the Azores, and twenty-five out of ninety passengers were rescued, but the rest are not accounted for.

The Cunard steamer Pavonia was towed by the Wilson Liner, the Colorado to within 300 miles of the Azores, when the Hawser fouled the propeller, and the vessels parted. The Pavonia by the last accounts was drifting, but has probably been rescued somehow. The American liner Russia reports the worst recorded passage.

At Queenstown the pilot was unable to land and was obliged to proceed to Liverpool. The renewal of recent widespread gales has led to numerous wrecks around the British coasts.

The Chief, a Sunderland collier of 200 tons, was driven three times on an eastern end on the Isle of Wight. A heavy sea was running, and it was blowing furiously. The vessel at last settled down. The crew launched three boats, one of which escaped after terrible trials, and the other two, containing thirteen persons, were lost.

A Middlesborough lighter suddenly foundered off Cromer, with all hands.

The channel traffic has been interrupted, and the pier and sea walls have been demolished.

MR. KIPLING AND HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW.

AN ACTION FOR FALSE ARREST.

ALLAHABAD, FEB. 14.

The London correspondent of the *Pioneer* telegraphs :—Mr. Balestier, Radyard Kipling's brother-in-law, has left Virginia to commence an action against the novelist for false arrest in May 1896, and threatens him with arrest the moment he lands in New York, declaring that he intends justifying himself before the public. Mr. Kipling is much annoyed.

A BLUEBOOK ON CHINA.

In the House of Commons, to-day, the Hon'ble Mr. St. John Brodriek promised that the Foreign Office would shortly issue a voluminous Bluebook on China.

THE DEFENCES OF WEI-HAI-WEI.

NEW PROPOSALS.

Mr. Goschen, replying to a question, said that the defences of Wei-hai-Wei were far advanced, and proposals relating thereto would be submitted to Parliament.

A CORRECTION.

Referring to the telegram of 3rd instant, containing a report of a speech on Indian finances, which was stated to have been made by the Chairman of the London County Council, the Telegraph administration, in reply to an enquiry, has forwarded the following correction :—For Chairman, London County Council read Chairman of London and County Bank.

HORRIBLE MURDER AT AHMEDABAD.

A LAD KILLS TWO SMALL BOYS.

AHMEDABAD, FEB. 14.

A horrible case of murder has been heard before Mr. Morlarty, Sessions Judge, Ahmedabad. From the evidence tendered it appears that a lad of sixteen, named Kole, a resident of Viramgaum, enticed away two little boys of seven years of age and killed them by breaking their necks. He then stole their jewellery and subsequently carried the corpses ten miles from the scene of the murder and buried them in the jungle. Kole confessed the crime before the committing Magistrate, but pleaded not guilty in the Session Court. The jury disagreed in their verdict, and the case has been referred to the High Court a Bombay.

THE POONA MURDERS.

ACCUSED BEFORE THE MAGISTRATE.

POONA, FEB. 14.

THIS morning, the three accused, Wasudeo Hari Chapekar, Ranade and Sathe, were placed before the Magistrate at the Farashkhana, charged with murdering and aiding each other in murdering. The first witness was Nilkant Shunker Dravid, brother of the murdered men. He said that about 9-45 on the previous Wednesday, whilst sitting in the temple compound of his house, he heard the reports of pistols, and also heard the voice of his brother Ganesh, who was calling out that he had been murdered.

He ran out, and about 100 paces from his house he saw his two brothers, Ramchander and Ganesh, lying on the road. Ganesh had a wound in his stomach from which blood was issuing. His brother Ganesh told him to run in the direction of Nagnath's Puhar, whither he said two men had run. He returned the same way. He met Sathe near Kelkar's house. Witness asked him whether he had seen two men running by that way. He replied that he had been at Kelkar's house, and that he had not seen any men running past there. Witness informed the police of the murder, and helped to remove his brothers to hospital.

DETAILED REPORT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, FEB. 14.

Nilkant Shunker Dravid, brother of the murdered men, stated that at 9-45, last Wednesday night, while sitting in the temple compound of his house, he heard reports of a pistol. He also heard the voice of his brother Ganesh calling out he had been murdered. He ran out, and about 100 paces from his house he saw his brothers, Ramchander and Ganesh, lying on the road. Ganesh had a wound in the stomach from which blood was issuing. He told him to run in the direction of Nagnath, whither he said, two men had run. Witness went as far as Lakdipool. On returning by the same way he met Sathe near Kelkar's house. Witness asked if he had seen two men running by that way. He replied he had been at Kelkari's house and had not seen anybody running past there. Witness informed the police of the murder and helped to remove his brothers to the hospital.

Govind Ramchander Londe, an overlooker in the Greaves Cotton Mills, Bombay, deposed that he came to Poona on the 29th of last month. He owns a house in Sadashiv Peth. Wasudeo Chapekar is his nephew. Wasudeo went to leave in his house on the 30 ultimo. Witness used to see Ranade and Wasudeo leave the house together. Both

USED TO CARRY PISTOLS

in white cloth bags slung across their shoulders under their clothing. One pistol had six chambers, the other had a single barrel. Witness first saw the weapons on Wednesday, the 1st instant, when they were shown him by Wasudeo. They also carried sticks with them when they went out. They used to return about 9-15 or 9-30 p m. Witness asked them where they were in the habit of going. They said they used to go out to shoot Ramjee Pandoo and the Dravids. On Friday, the 3rd, they returned at 9-30 and told witness they had fired at Ramjee, but missed him, the bullet having fallen into the bag. Witness advised them not to do this again or he, Wasudeo, would share the same fate, as his brother Damodher. He said "Very well,

I DON'T MIND BEING HANGED."

He said out of all his friends he found only Ranade to be staunch and true and one who was ready to sacrifice his life for him. They re-loaded the pistols and changed their clothes, after which Ranade left. On Wednesday last they went out as usual, taking their fire-arms. Sathe came there for a little while. Afterwards all three changed their clothes. Wasudeo put on a Punjabi sudra and a red velvet jacket belonging to witness and wore a rumal on his head and a white dhotur round his waist. Ranade had on a pink guernsey, a white cloth jacket belonging to Wasudeo, and Sathe put on a coat belonging to Wasudeo and the witness's red cap. Wasudeo and Ranade carried pistols in bags. Both had sticks in their hands. Sathe carried a stick only.

Wasudeo said as he had to give evidence next day against his brother he was

DETERMINED TO KILL SOMEONE THAT NIGHT.

About a quarter of an hour later witness heard the report of a pistol. Ten minutes later Wasudeo and Ranade came to his door and called on him to open it quickly. They were excited and out of breath. They enquired if Sathe had arrived. Witness said he had not. They asked witness to go and look for him. Wasudeo told witness they had been to the Dravids and shot them, but was doubtful if the shots had taken effect. They re-loaded the pistols and after changing their dress went out again. They said if Sathe came while they were away, he was to sit in Wasudeo's room, but he did not return. They told witness they were going to shoot Ramjee Pandoo. They took the pistols with them, but returned about 10-30; both went to sleep in Wasudeo's room. Ranade got up early next morning and went home. Sathe and Ranade were in the habit of visiting Wasudeo at witness's house.

The case was then adjourned until to-morrow.

NEW MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

CALCUTTA, FEB. 14.

Nawab Assanullah, of Dacca, has been nominated to fill the seat in the Supreme Legislative Council, vacated by the Hon. Joy Gobind Law.

ACCIDENT TO MAJOR J. G. TURNER.

CHARGED BY A BOAR.

An awkward accident is reported to have occurred to Major J. G. Turner, I.S.C., 2nd Bengal Lancers who had been pigsticking in Jodhpur last week with the Raja's party. A boar charged his horse, which fell, rolling over on its rider. Before Major Turner could recover himself, the boar charged again, and ripped open one of his arms up to the wrist. Before, however, it could do more harm, it was despatched by one of the party, who had dismounted. The Major is progressing favourably.

THE PRIME MINISTER OF NEPAUL.

Maharaja Sir Bir Shumshere Jung Rana Bahadoor, Prime Minister of Nepaul, left Calcutta by the 9-33 a.m. train from Howrah, under a salute of nineteen guns. A guard-of-honour of the 4th Rajputs was drawn up at the house in Comac Street. His Highness left, escorted by the 7th Bengal Cavalry, who conducted the Maharaja to the railway station.

TRANSFER.

Second Lieutenant Atkinson, 4th Bombay Cavalry, has been transferred to the 2nd Punjab Cavalry Frontier Force.

PLAGUE MORTALITY.

Calcutta had four more suspected plague deaths in the week ending 12th instant.

Official returns for the same period show 2,103 plague deaths in the Bombay Presidency 27, in Mysore; 179 in the Madras Presidency 67, in Hyderabad State; 2 in the Central Provinces; one in the Punjab, besides one imported case in Rajputana.

RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK.

REPRESENTATION BY THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

*CALCUTTA, FEB. 13.

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce have addressed Government on the subject of terms to be made with the East Indian Railway when the latter's contract with the Secretary of State terminates at the end of the current year under notice which has been given by his Lordship. The Chamber understand that the Secretary of State is willing to continue the management of the railway by the present Company on a general basis of the existing contract, subject to a revision in the control of the junction stations and granting of running powers to foreign lines and application to the railway of the acts of legislature, and power of Government to control individual rates and fares. The Chamber think all these desirable, and presume Government also intend to retain a control over terminal stations to which foreign lines have running powers. The Chamber, however, add that the rolling stock, especially in the matter of wagons for coal and seed export trade, should be increased, also that greater facilities should be given, and at less price, in the matter of construction of sidings and that the consulting Committee of the Railway in Calcutta should meet oftener.

The Chamber make a strong case of the great inconvenience which is caused by present arrangements, especially in connection with the insufficiency of rolling stock which has been suffered from for years, despite constant protest, and while not desiring to cast a reflection on the executive administration of the line they urge the necessity of placing the executive in a position to deal with the requirements of trade and to pursue a more liberal policy in the future.

ATTACK ON EUROPEANS AT SIBI.

THE GHAZI SHOT DEAD.

*QUETTA, FEB. 13.

Intelligence received here from Sibi goes to show that Captain Spence, First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, while out for a drive along with his wife, on Saturday evening, was attacked by a swordsman on horseback, who turns out to be a Brahui Baluch. Captain Spence has received a serious but not dangerous wound, besides being hurt through having fallen off the dog-cart, the horse of which was also slashed across by the would-be murderer and rendered unmanageable. Mrs. Spence is the sister of the late Colonel Gaisford, who was assassinated last year near Loralai, and has escaped unhurt, though she thought it prudent to conceal herself in a ravine or under a culvert, while the horseman had his attention on Captain Spence. It seems the tragedy was witnessed a little way off by some natives, and on their raising an alarm the horseman made for the railway lines, apparently with the object of attacking any Europeans he came across, but he was observed approaching, and a Locomotive Department subordinate, named Buttons, arming himself with a revolver, faced him, his first shot bringing the horse down, and a couple more putting an end to the man's life. Mr. Buttons is Assistant to the Locomotive Foreman at Sibi, and an ex-soldier of the Royal Artillery. He has by his pluck, perhaps, saved many lives, and will doubtless be appropriately rewarded. It is not known if this is another instance of attempted Ghaziism. Enquiries are being made.

Owing to the prominent position occupied by him, his relationship to Colonel Gaisford, and its occurrence during the Ramzan fast, the attack at Sibi on Captain Spence has caused a great sensation, and his wonderful escape from death the sincerest pleasure, he and his wife being exceedingly popular. There is a feeling of insecurity for European life abroad in these parts, however, owing to certain provincial factors inducing unrest. Another company of Native Infantry has gone from here to Sibi to-day, as there will be a very large gathering of Sardars and Malliks, and their followers at the Cattle Show and Durbar commencing there on the 20th February. Most probably some more troops will be sent.

SARDAR YAR MOHAMAD KHAN.

HIS CAPTURE PROBABLE.

Captain Ramsay, accompanied by Mr. Beaty of the Police, with a strong body of police levies, has gone out towards Punjab near the Afghan Frontier, where Sardar Yar Mohamad Khan, a Khelat refugee chief, who has been refused an asylum by the Ameer, is harrying the neighbourhood, and terrorising British and Khelat subjects. This is one of the men that was kept in custody for a time by direction of Mr. Barnes at the end of 1897, and who went off to Khandahar in the middle of 1898. He is almost sure to be captured or killed having now being driven to bay.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP POLO TOURNAMENT.

VICTORY FOR PATIALA.

*LUCKNOW, FEB. 13.

The final for the Cup presented by the Lucknow Race Fund for an open polo tournament was played off this afternoon. There was a very full attendance. The game was between the Patiala and the Calcutta teams. For the first two chukkers play was fast and very even. Indeed, after this, when Patiala had but one goal and several subsidiaries to their credit Calcutta had contributed two goals, which practically placed them in the front, and we looked forward to a sensational struggle. All the four players on each side were playing brilliantly, but then after the fifth chukker a collapse settled on Calcutta, their ponies began to give in, and there was no stemming the overwhelming force opposed to them. After the fifth chukker Calcutta's play was, in spite of their efforts, limited to a feeble defence, and Patiala were doing little more than having a target practice at the Calcutta flags, but it was not from the practice on the whole as many easily-got subsidiaries should have been sent between the flags. Calcutta was further unfortunate. They got several clear openings, but missing, when with nothing between them and the goal, was their cruel portion. Had Mr. Ezra been as true in his hitting to-day as in the two previous games, the issue may have been different.

The Patiala team comprised General Preetum Singh, the Maharajah, Colonel Chanda Singh, and General Goordit Singh (back), and the Calcutta team comprised Major Williams, Mr. Ezra, Captain Martin, and Major Kuper (back). The Umpires were Major Goring and Mr. Lloyd.

First Chukker.—In the hit off Calcutta got on, but the Maharajah returned from near the flags. Then General Preetum Singh, carrying on in spite of Major Kuper's attention, had a shot at the flags, but went out wide. From the hit off, when Captain Martin centered, Mr. Ezra taking on the ball at the other end, whence the Maharajah getting on had a run, but the ball went out wide. The ball was worked to the other end, where play was confined in front of Patiala's flags till it went out at the side. Score—Love all.

Second Chukker.—After even play all about midground, General Preetum Singh got on the ball near the corner of the Calcutta end, whence by a difficult shot he hit a subsidiary. From the hit out play was confined to the Calcutta end, where Calcutta by desperate efforts averted scoring right in front of the flags. Then the ball was hit to the corner, whence the Maharajah brought it back to the flags and missed placing between the flags. Score—Patiala, one subsidiary to love.

Third Chukker.—Play was all over the ground, but not suffered near the flags, till finally Patiala pressed home the attack, and Colonel Chanda Singh hit a subsidiary. From the hit off play was determined in the Calcutta end, where the Maharajah getting on hit a goal. Score—Patiala, one goal and two subsidiaries to love.

Fourth Chukker.—Calcutta got on and confined the play to the Patiala end, and Mr. Ezra had three shots at the flags, the last time an easy clear run, but the ball went out wide. Then Patiala forced the ball at the other end, where General Goordit Singh quickly hit a subsidiary. The ball was brought across the Patiala end, where General Preetum Singh getting on had a run to the flags, but failed to hit home true. Shortly after this Patiala scored a subsidiary. After one more futile run by Patiala, and a wide shot at the flags, Mr. Ezra ran the ball across the centre. Then Captain Martin getting on by a long shot hit a goal. Score—Patiala, one goal and four subsidiaries, to one goal.

Fifth Chukker.—Patiala ran the ball down the Calcutta end, and General Preetum Singh centering it from the side of the ground, the Maharajah hit a subsidiary. The attack was renewed on the Calcutta flags, and out of the scrimmage a subsidiary was scored. Play was in midground, till Mr. Ezra serving Captain Martin, the latter carried on the ball, when Major Williams riding off back hit a goal. Play was in the Calcutta half, till the Maharajah hit a subsidiary. Calcutta took the ball to their adversaries' end where Mr. Ezra again missed a good chance, and the Maharajah sent the ball back, and General Preetum Singh carried it on to near the flags, where on missing, the Maharajah getting on, hit a subsidiary shortly. Out of another attack the Maharajah hit a goal. Score—Patiala, two goals and eight subsidiaries, to two goals.

Sixth Chukker.—From the hit off play was in midground, from whence the ball was worked to the Calcutta flags, and General Goordit Singh hit a goal. Calcutta now attacked the Patiala flags, but the ball went out wide. Then from a hit in, the attack centered in the Calcutta ground, from whence Colonel Chanda Singh placed the ball in front of the flags, and General Preetum Singh drove it between. Another subsidiary was added to the Patiala score soon after the hit off, and play was not suffered out of the Calcutta ground, till General Preetum Singh from a score by the Maharajah hit a goal. Play was in mid-ground, Calcutta failing to make headway. Then Patiala got on, and the Maharajah had a run to the flags, but only scored a subsidiary. Score—Patiala, five goals and ten subsidiaries, to two goals.

Seventh Chukker.—Play was in the Calcutta end, where after more than one random shot at the flags, the ball going out wide, Patiala allowed a corner shot, and shortly Patiala hit a goal. The Calcutta ponies were quite done now, and from the hit off play was at once centered in the Calcutta half, where the Sikh onrush could not be stemmed, and the Maharajah soon added another goal to his score. Score—Patiala, seven goals and ten subsidiaries, to two goals.

Eighth Chukker.—Only one minute remained for play. General Preetum Singh got on, and shortly, being ridden off, the Maharajah hit forward and General Preetum Singh taking on hit a goal. Final time sounded just as the ball was speeding on between the flags, Patiala thus winning by eight goals and ten subsidiaries to two goals.

PLAGUE IN CEYLON.

COLOMBO, FEB. 14.

A Sinhalese jeweller of Galle, a frequent visitor to Bombay, left there, overland, for Tuticorin on the 25th January, passed an examination, and sailed on the 5th instant, for Colombo, was there disinfected, and proceeded to Galle, where the local authorities on Sunday found that he had been ill some days with swellings attributed to another ailment. But as his case was suspicious, he was removed to the plague hospital. Twenty-five others have been segregated by the medical authorities, who repudiate the plague, but great excitement prevails at Galle. The man attacked is not dead. The scare is subsiding.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

SUEZ, FEB. 13.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Rome arrived here from Colombo this afternoon.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Borneo arrived here from Colombo on the 10th morning.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Macdonald arrived here from Calcutta, Madras and Colombo yesterday afternoon.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Robertson left here for Colombo, Madras and Calcutta this morning.

PLYMOUTH, FEB. 13.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Arcadia arrived here day before yesterday evening.

LIVERPOOL, FEB. 13.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Sinclair left here for Colombo, Madras and Calcutta yesterday afternoon.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, FEB. 13.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed strong. Surats quiet.

Good Bhownuggur 2 23-32.

The Manchester Market has been strong.

2 3-4 per cent. Consols	111 3-8
3 per cent. Rentes	103.
3 1-2 Sterling loan	110 1-2
3 1-2 per cent. Rupee papers	65 7-8
Bar Silver	27 1-2

PRESIDENCY PLAGUE MORTALITY.

THE cases of plague and deaths therefrom reported to Government during the week ending 10th February, were as follows :—

Cities.	Cases.	Deaths.
Bombay	837	657
Karachi	12	11
Poona	4	2
Districts.		
Ahmedabad	1	1
Panch Mahals	137	119
Kaira	88	64
Broach	41	33
Surat	37	29
Thana	163	132
Khandesh	55	42
Nasik	51	37
Bijapur	125	119
Poona	9	9
Kanara	16	11
Satara	172	177
Sholapur	16	14
Ahmednagar	5	4
Kolaba	43	29
Ratnagiri	1	2
Belgaum	156	124
Dharwar	305	257
Political Agencies.		
Baroda	125	93
Kathiawar	1	1
Kolhapur	377	233
Cutch	13	8
Rewa Kantha	1	1
Palanpur	12	5
Janjira	2	2
Aundh	5	5
Bhor	6	6
Total	2,212	2,275
Week ending Feb. 3*	2,672	2,328
Total to date	224,311	177,414

*Delayed in transmission.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

THE RISE IN TIN.

COAL FAMINE IN TORONTO.

THE BRAZILIAN BUDGET FOR 1899.

MR. CRAWLEY'S neat little bundle of pig-iron statistics gives some interesting comparisons. From it we learn that the highest price for Scotch warrants reached within the last forty-five years was 145s. 1d. in the spacious days of 1876; the lowest was 37s. 1d. in 1888. Prices in 1898 ranged between 45s. 2 1-2d. and 50s. 5d. During the latter part of the year they were nearer the top than the bottom of the range; to-day they are about 3s. 6d. above the top. The annual production of Scotch warrants has grown from 740,000 tons in 1853 to 1,190,264 tons in 1898—the best year on record. There have been much bigger shipments in former years; last year's total of 287,619 tons (though nearly 10,000 tons higher than 1897) looks small beside the 841,500 tons of 1872, and is (especially in connection with the decrease in stocks last year) an indication of the spurt in local manufacture which has caused 1898 to be numbered among the fat years, despite the shrinkage in the export market. A significant feature of the export trade is the decline in shipments to the United States from 234,400 tons in 1880 to 350 tons last year; yet American consumption has increased hugely between those periods. But since 1880 the capacities of Alabama have been discovered.

A strong movement appears to be on foot for affecting a combination of the calico printers of England and Scotland. It is estimated that the number of machines employed in this important home industry is about 900, and manufacturers representing 600 machines have as a result of preliminary meetings already held in Manchester and Glasgow, under the auspices of the Calico Printers' Association, expressed their willingness to join in such a combination as is proposed. It is roughly calculated that a capital of from £9,000,000 to £10,000,000 will be required to float the new concern. The whole matter, however, is as yet in a very embryonic stage, although the co-operation of the well-known accountants who arranged the preliminaries of the English Sewing Cotton Company and the Bradford Dyers' Association has been invited. Calico printers in Scotland, in view of the unremunerative state of the trade in recent years, would no doubt welcome proposals for a combination; but the feeling in the trade generally has so far not been indicated.

Toronto has been on the verge of a coal famine. There is an unexampled scarcity of both hard and soft coal, though the pinch is specially felt as regards the hard quality. "Chestnuts," the class of coal most preferred for domestict use are, particularly scarce, practically none being left in the city. Prices have advanced and if the stringency continues they will get much dearer. The scarcity is due to the lack of railway cars for transpotation of coal from the States. In the middle of September cars began to get scarce owing to the heavy demands from the west. Consequently, only small quantities of coal reached the Dominion. In December, when the heavy autumn traffics from the West cease, there is generally an abundant supply of cars, and merchants expect an improvement in the amount imported. Early last December there was a heavy snowstorm and all the Coal roads were blocked. For five days, owing to this cause and wrecks on the line, not a single load of coal made its appearance at Buffalo; so that none could be sent on to Toronto. The Lehigh Valley Company had live stock side-tracked in snow banks for a week at a time, and refused to move coal until all such goods had been cleared. The railway companies themselves felt the famine, one company placing a temporary embargo on coal owing to lack of power. Another company confiscated three cars of coal owing to its inability to get a sufficient supply for its own engines. The difficulty is aggravated by the fact that other freight gets the preference over coal, and coal will be one of the last things shifted in the present block of goods. Another authority states that it is caused by dealers and people not storing during the summer months. All through the summer the price of coals kept falling, and dealers would not buy more than sufficient to meet immediate orders, hoping to get cheaper terms by waiting.

The continued rise in the value of tin since the beginning of the month is attracting a good deal of attention. On December 31 tin was quoted in the London market at about £86 per ton, and since then it has been going up by leaps and bounds, until it touched this week £112 per ton for three months delivery. The dealings have recently ranged from 900 to 2,000 tons per day, and it is computed that since the beginning of November over 61,200 tons have changed hands, a business quite disproportionate to the stock in London, which on January 1 was only 8,275 tons, with 1,416 tons afloat for England. The total visible supply was then calculated at 22,511 tons. The aggregate shipments last year from the Straits amounted to 43,757 tons, as against 42,030 tons in 1897; while the total deliveries reached 66,317 tons in 1898, as against 59,696 tons in the previous year, thus showing that the increased consumption exceeded the increased production by 4,894 tons. It has been asserted that the sources of supply in the Straits are giving out. But this is quite erroneous The fact is that the output of the Straits has been checked by a new mining code. Formerly mine-owners were allowed to work the richer parts of their mines and actually to spoil the poorer parts by throwing the "over-burden" on the latter, thus rendering the working of the inferior sections difficult; but under the new code they are compelled to work the mine as a whole, fairly and properly. Miners are prevented from picking out rich patches of ground and spoiling the poorer parts, and if they obtain a licence they must make good what they spoil. The Government is also more particular in granting mining concessions, which are now restricted to persons who have the means and intention to work the ground fairly. Over-production and excessive stocks have been thus prevented, and supply and demand kept at nearly the same level. The higher prices now ruling will doubtless stimulate an increased production, for it will now pay to work the poorer ground. While the statistical position warranted an advance in the value of the metal, a rise of £26 in three weeks, is hardly justified from a commercial point of view. The present movement, which began early last year, when the price was in the 'sixties,' is chiefly due to speculation. It is said that the syndicate who hold the bulk of the tin can put the price to anything they like, but, in view of increased supplies coming forward later on, it cannot be expected that high values can be maintained. The lowest price last year was £62 5-8 exactly twelve months ago, when the London stock was 15,819 tons; and the average price for the whole year was £71 3-16.

The details of the Brazilian financial programme for the current year, with the criticisms thereon, which have just been brought by the mail from Rio de Jeneiro, are the most interesting at the present moment because, as already reported, the Government of Brazil appears to be making a serious effort to put its finances on something like a sound basis and to remedy the enormous fall in the exchange which has been practically continuous—until quite recently—since the establishment of the Republic. The specific measure which has been enacted with this object is the collection of 10 per cent of the import duties in gold, an arrangement which, it is now calculated by the merchants affected, is equivalent to an advance of the duties as hitherto collected in paper by from 25 to 30 per cent. The revenue for the current year has been estimated at 351,114,000 milreis, and the expenditure at 328 034,557 milreis, showing, it will be observed, a surplus of 23,019,442 milreis. This calculation is apparently irrespective of the effect of the collection of a portion of the Customs revenue in gold, as already explained, for we are told that the gold item is expected to increase the surplus to 75.744,442 milreis. A promised surplus in a country from which European creditors have learned to expect only deficits has, at least, a hopeful sound, and should the promise be realised the financial result will beyond all question be a very important revival of interest in Brazil and its securities, while the effect on the commercial markets will be in many ways noteworthy

The estimated aggregate value of the 325 representative Stock Exchange securities selected for comparison by the "Bankers' Magazine" is £3,268,479,000 at the prices on January 21, and shows an increase of £27,260,000 as against the aggregate calculated at the prices on December 19. The upward movement is mainly due to the continued appreciation of mining shares and American railway securities. It is pointed out, however, that, in addition to the activity which has characterised certain of the speculative markets, some of the first-class investment stocks have also improved, money having been cheaper than had been generally anticipated. It is mainly to this cause that a large increase under the head of British and Indian funds is attributed, although Indian stocks "have been favourably affected by the strength of exchange and rumours of the declaration of a good standard." English railway stocks have been firm on favourable dividend estimates, and the decline shown in debenture stocks is principally due to the deduction of interest from the price of particular stocks. So far as active dealings are concerned, however, interest has almost entirely centred in the market for American railroad securities and South African mining shares. Under the first head the list of stocks shows an average gain of about 5 1-2 per cent, and since the table was compiled further gains in that department have occured. Most of the buying is believed to be still on New York account, the dealing on this side being principally confined to "professional" operations. Next to American stocks, South African mining shares have been the most active in speculative markets, a good deal of professional buying being reported. English bank shares have been decidedly firm in consequence of very satisfactory dividends, and although some of the shares of foreign banks have declined slightly, a feature has been the sharp rise in Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on the results of the past year's operations. Industrial shares continue to be largely dealt in by the public, and prices show a further rise for the month.

That there is in Holland some tendency to Protectionism is evidenced by a pamphlet entitled "Decadence de la Neerlande" (Maestrict : December, 1898), which has been sent to us. According to a statement on the cover 10,000 copies have been gratuitously distributed. The author, M. Eugene Regout, appears, from the description on the title page, to have been for many years intimately associated with various industries in the province of Limburg, and his pamphlet has been written in opposion to the Free-trade opinions of the Dutch Minister of Finance, M. Pierson, and of the great commercial centres of the Netherlands, such as Amsterdam and Rotterdam. It might have been supposed that Holland as an essentially agricultual and commercial country, deriving, moreover, great profit from the carriage, handling, and distribution of merchandise as an emporium for Western Europe, did not offer a favourable soil for the growth of opinions in favour of the protection of manufacturing industry. A descriptive account of the Netherlands recently published for the use of the representatives of the foreign press, who attended the festivities in connection with the coronation of Queen Wilhelmina is, however, quoted by M. Regout in proof of the existence of much division of opinion on the subject in Holland, and as evidence that the Protectionist movement to some extent results from a desire to restrict the competition of foreign agricultural produce in the Dutch markets. M. Regout, however, specially advocates the protection of manufacturing industry in Holland in the belief that the extension of such industry would increase the prosperity of the Dutch farming classes by expanding the home demand for their produce. This is an old delusion, which has been abundantly refuted, not only in Europe, but in the United States. In addition to being an advocate of "all-round" Protection, M. Regout wishes to see differential duties re-established in Netherlands India. He makes the startling statement that the proportion of the population in Holland in receipt of public relief is vastly greater than in any of the great countries of Europe or in the United States. As, however, he argues also that Protectionism is gaining ground in Great Britain, and that the denunciation of the commercial treaties with Germany and Belgium, in compliance with the desire of Canada for a perfectly free hand in regard to her own fiscal arrangements, was due to this alleged tendency, there is some reason to distrust M. Regout's statements even as regards Holland, and at least his interpretation of the causes of such destitution as may exist in the Netherlands. It is remarkable, that while M. Regout rejoices in the fact that the Dutch cotton industry affords employment "to the population of almost an entire province," he complains that the Haarlem Association for the Promotion of National Industry makes common cause with M. Pierson in opposing the Protectionist movement. The pamphlet is in the French language. Why? It is easy to understand the inducement to the Chamber of Commerce of Amsterdam to issue, as it does, an English edition of its elaborate annual report, and there is nothing illogical in Free-traders endeavouring to secure the adoption of their opinions throughout the world by urging them in all languages. But as M. Regout believes that a nation prospers by increasing its exports to the utmost and preventing imports, except of gold, he ought to wish every other country but his own to adopt Free-trade. It seems contradictory for Protectionists to desire to promote an international acceptance of their doctrines. From the very nature of his arguments it might have been supposed that M. Regout would desire to restrict his teaching to Dutchman.

Messrs. F. and S. Chiesman and Co., of London and Liverpool, report that the principal feature in the resin market during the past month has been the firmer tone respecting "pale" resin. A year ago shippers were strongly disposed to make contracts ahead as quickly as possible for "pale" qualities. The result was that prices eventually fell to a seriously unremunerative level. There is no indication of repetition of this policy during the current season, and the general improvement of trade in the United States has developed and increase of confidence on the part of resin producers there. Higher prices are therefore, predicted for the current season. A strong and healthy demand for low medium and common resin has also been experienced, and consumption is said to be increasing, especially on the Continent. The London market this year opened with a brisk demand, and a fair volume of actual business in low mediums and common. "Pale" have been very scarce. The Liverpool market has been steady on a moderate demand, with "spot" prices fully maintined, but with sellers willing to discount the prices of low grades for "forward" shipment.

MORTARS FOR HILL WARFARE:

A SUGGESTION.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE.")

Sir,—When I was Orderly Officer at Addiscombe many years ago, it was a portion of the system of Education to teach the cadets at that institution Mortar Practice and they usually became adepts in throwing the shells with great accuracy near the Target which was a Flag Staff. Again, when I was in Turkish Arabia, I observed that the Turkish Regiments which were used against the Khurds of Khurdistan had each two Field Pieces carried on mules as a portion of their armament, and the Force was usually supplimented by a mortar Battery, of small calibre. When the mortar opened fire, the Turkish Forces were always successful in compelling the evacuation of the Hill Forts occupied by the rebellious Khurds after a shell or two had been dropped into their citadels, when the Light Field Pieces were able to inflict severe loss on the enemy during their retreat. I make these remarks as it occurs to me, that the use of mortars by our Troops in hill warfare has been abandoned at all events one never sees any notice of the performances of the mortar Batteries in our recent campaigns in Afridi Land, and yet one would supposes that mortars would be the most effective means of dislodging the Hill men from their Sungar and Towers of refuge I suppose the fact of the Force, sent from Burma having retreated, will make the Hill Tribes think we are not invincible after all, but I venture to think, that if our attacks, upon the Sungar and Towers in Afridi Land had been assisted by mortar Batteries, we should have demonstrated to the Afridis, that they were not quite so secure in their Sungar and hiding places as they supposed. It is to be hoped, that the villages of the clan who have now fought us, will now be retained by our Government, and not be again given up, and that we are retiring from our policy of half measures. This village of Gomtee from which we retired being so close to our Frontier, must have been though incapable of resistance by our authorities and these people did not act against us, during the recent disturbances, so strong opposition was not anticipated, this is why the mistake occurred again of despising and taking small account of the powers of the enemy.—Yours, &c.,

J. P. NIXON, MAJOR GENERAL.

Hyderabad Deccan 11th Feb.

PLAGUE COMMISSION IN BOMBAY.

FURTHER LOCAL EVIDENCE.

THE Plague Commission resumed its inquiry at the Secretariat, yesterday morning, when there were present: Professor T. R. Fraser, M. D., L. L. D., F. R. S., president, Mr. J. P. Hewett, C. I. E., I. C. S., and Mr. A. Cumine, I. C.S.

DR. I. J. MAHOMED.

Dr. Ismail Jan Mahomed gave evidence as to the first outbreak of plague in August 1896. He said that the origin of plague from filth was untenable, and he suggested that it should be on record that the sanitary condition of Mandvie at the time the plague began was very congenial soil for the growth of plague bacillus. As regarded the surmise about the Sadhoos communicating plague on their way to Nasik there was no direct evidence. Besides the insanitary condition of Mandvie there was one factor of very great importance which had been overlooked, and it was that Mandvie had not only grain godowns, but also godowns of Chinese crackers, chinese tea, suagr, silk, etc. Trade in these articles established a direct communication of Bombay with Hongkong, the seat of the plague, and it had been found out on inquiry that dead rats were found in these godowns first before the plague broke out. This explained the outbreak at Mandvie much better than the far-fetched theory of Sadhoos having brought the plague from Kumaon. As regarded Professor Haffkine's preventive inoculation, he had been watching its progress and its effects attentively from the very beginning among all classes and communities, especially the Khoja community, and he might say that he was entirely and decidedly in favour of the system. There were numerous cases in which inoculated members of the families escaped from plague, while non-inoculated people contracted it and succumbed. He had not heard a single complaint in the Khoja community about inoculation having produced ill-effects, or impaired the general health of the inoculated. The result of the curative serum was not, however, satisfactory.

MR. G. LUND.

Mr. G. Lund gave evidence about his experience of plague in November 1897. He first joined as a volunteer in Colaba, but in December at his own request he was transferred to the Mazagon and Tarwady districts, in the latter of which he then resided, and where the executive working under the then existing Plague Committee had no voluntary help. Having described the insanitary condition of the district Mr. Lund told the Commission what measures were adopted in cases of plague occurring in the district. Inoculation had been encouraged in every way. "Contacts" were given the option of being inoculated or going to camp, and opportunity was taken of a clear or doubtful case of plague occurring in a building to persuade as many inmates as possible to submit themselves to the prophylatic. Of the total number of persons inoculated by the medical officers in the district, and at their dispensaries, up to date, close on 7,000, whose names and addresses were known and noted in the office books, one death only from plague had occurred. House-to-house visitation could be carried out with a considerable amount of success, but it must be done in a benevolent and kindly spirit, and with scrupulous regard to the caste and other prejudices of the people. Removal from their infected houses would be willingly consented to, provided it was to a spot close at hand and the more readily if they were allowed to erect their own temporary shelters, for which the poor amongst them should be provided with the means in money or kind. Upon the question of the erection of camps, he wished to remark that he had for a long time advocated the building of huts of a more substantial character, so that the evicts whose houses were condemned as U. H. H. might be allowed to remain, paying rent after the first fifteen days. This had been successfully done in the Nareiwady Camp. During last monsoon many huts were so occupied and the rents were collected monthly by the Camp Master without difficulty.

Cross-examined by Mr. Hewett, witness said that he did not approve of the system of corpse-inspection, because it was objected to by the people, and particularly by the Mahomedans. He thought that the present mode of finding out plague cases worked well. It was probable that more plague cases would be identified by resorting to corpse-inspection. His opinion was that the present outbreak was in certain respects more virulent than either of the previous epidemics. The pneumonic type of plague cases was particularly very malignant on account of the excessive cold experienced this year and the conditions in which the people lived.

DR. KATRAK.

Dr. N. N. Katrak said that ever since the discovery of the prophylactic by Professor Haffkine, he had taken interest in the subject and watched its effects on individuals and made inquiries. He urged the Municipality to invite the whole medical profession to take up the matter. The facts collected as to the effect of the system convinced him of its value and usefulness. The opinions which his experience had enabled him to form on the subject of inoculation were (1) the statistics available up to date proved that the percentage of attacks from plague amongst the people inoculated with plague prophylactic was much smaller than that amongst the people not so inoculated; (b) the percentage of mortality from plague amongst the inoculated attacked was much smaller than that amongst the people not so inoculated. He then put in a fresh statement in which he tried to show that the plague prophylactic was not only sterile, but could remain so even if opened and resealed.

MR. JAMES MACDONALD.

Mr. James MacDonald, Headmaster of the Scottish Schools, said that he early tried to impress upon the landlords the advantage it would be to them of giving information at a time sufficiently early to prevent the spread of plague over their chawls in Tarwady and Mazagon. All rent-collectors and peons in charge of chawls gave comparatively early notice and the other residents were saved from segregation. It was difficult to bring many of the people to consider removal to a hospital a good thing. The people believed that since all were in God's hands, if they were to die, they would prefer to die in the hands of their castemen and friends. Hindus and Mussalmans were equally fatalistic. He was of opinion that less difficulty would be experienced in removal if only some light (say bamboo) stretcher, with a covering, could be used instead of the ambulance cart. They did not like the ambulance. At first he was a keen advocate for house-to-house visitation being placed in the hands of native gentlemen of position, but the experiment proved unsuccessful. It was noticeable that in deciding whether cases should be removed influences other than reason decided them—their feelings generally gave way, to the injury of other residents in the chawls. He should not be astonished, therefore, if the authorities were compelled to revert to the plan which had more backbone in it, i.e., appoint even more military officers than they had yet done. He never was an advocate for disinfection, although the work was most thoroughly performed so far as the material supplied would allow.

DR. MILNE.

Captain C. J. R. Milne I.M.S., gave evidence as to the examination of bottles of prophylactic which have been stored in the laboratory. He said:—Bottles of 125 series have been examined by myself with the assistance of Doctors Gibson and Randsome. Those series have been stored in the laboratory for a variety of reasons such as the weakness of the brew &c. One dates from May 1897, while 2 date from March 1898. The others form a continuous series of those prepared in the laboratory from August to the middle of December 1898. The bottles of each series have been kept stored in boxes or in cupboards in the dark. Of these 125 in 104 series the sealing of the bottles was satisfactory while in 21 it was broken or had holes in it allowing the cork to be exposed to the air and dust. In the first instance of the 104 bottles with satisfactory sealing 98 were found pure and 6 contaminated. Of the 21 series in which the bottles had broken sealing, one was found to be pure and the remainder contaminated. Ten well sealed bottles of these 20 were examined, with the result that 8 were found to be pure, and 2 contaminated while in 3 series satisfactory bottles could not be found and all 3 again with unsatisfactory sealing were found to be contaminated. Of one series still a third bottle was examined with a similar result. Of the two contaminated ones from the well sealed series one has been retested and found pure. The conclusion seems to point emphatically to the contamination of bottles taking place after the material has been bottled and sealed up, and is due to the imperfect condition of the sealing. This has been taken into account for sometime past, and experiments are being made to substitute a more effective method of sealing and corking the bottles.

Mr. A. B. Davur, who volunteered his evidence, was the next witness examined. He submitted a long statement, and Mr. Cumine in cross-examining him on that statement had to put questions in writing as he was deaf.

Dr. Godinho, Deputy Health Officer, Bombay, was of opinion that Professor Haffkine's serum had done a great deal of good in preventing attacks of plague and reducing the mortality.

Mr. A. L. Simcox, I. C. S., stated what measures were adopted by the authorities at Malegaum, Nassik, to cope with the outbreak of plague in that place.

The Commission then adjourned till to-day.

DR. BLANEY'S EVIDENCE.

We give below some of the important portions of the evidence which Dr. Blaney gave before the Commission on Monday:—

Witness among other things said: I am a medical practitioner, and a member of the City Improvement Trust. I have been Sheriff of Bombay, Coroner of the City, President of the Municipal Corporation, Chairman of the Standing Committee, Chairman of the Joint Schools' Committee and member of the Jubilee Technical Institute. I have lived continuously in Bombay for fifty-two years, less three months, when I visited Europe. About the rise and progress of the disease, as I have observed it in Bombay, my experience is that it first showed itself among the labouring population, chiefly Hindu, in the Mandvi district immediately after the close of the monsoon season. Almost immediately afterwards the disease was observed in some Ghati labourers near the Bunders in Mandvi; very numerous cases were observed amongst the patients of Dr. A G Viegas Dr. Ismail Jan Mahomed and Dr. Dossabhoy Patel in Hindu families who were mostly living in Mandvi in fairly good fairly well lighted and fairly ventilated houses. Simultaneously with the discovery of these plague cases the residents of these and some of the surrounding houses pointed out to me and others that dead rats were to be found in the dwelling rooms on the staircases and in the gullies in large numbers every day since the plague invasion began. The way in which the rats were found and the places in which they were discovered did not show they were instinctively running away from a danger, for by far the larger portion were found in the houses, in the dwelling rooms on all the stories of the house, and nearly all those that were found dead in the streets were thrown there out of the houses. The rats had evidently made no discovery of the danger, hence there was no exodus or running away from the houses. Moreover, nearly the whole tribe that died perished in the houses, godowns, and shops in which they had lived. It may here be mentioned that all the large granaries in Bombay are situated in Mandvi; that these granaries are numerous and always well stocked, and that they are kept open only during business hours encouraging if not a mephitic at least a musty and foul atmosphere within. As the stored grain is never kept in metallic receptacles but in gunny bags stacked in tiers from floor to ceiling all the conditions for successful rat propagation are fully satisfied. Abundance of nutritious food supply suitable hiding and breeding crannies between the bags on the ground tier perfect safety from intrusion and fulltimely warning of the approach of exposure and danger all these conditions for rat breeding on a stupendous scale are present in all the grain godowns of Bombay. In all the animal creation of the world I know of no better class of preserved vermin than the rats of Bombay. I may here say that at the request of Mr Snow I made a journey through the Mandvi grain district about three month ago to ascertain by personal inspection and from the godownkeepers and surrounding residents the then condition of the rats. My enquiry lasted over two days. What I learned was this. Dead rats were nearly everywhere discovered in large numbers in Mandvi during the first epidemic which prevailed from September 1896 up to July 1897; but during the second epidemic they were very decidedly scarce though the plague mortality of both epidemics was nearly equal. The opinion is widely held in Bombay that rats exercise a greater influence in the spread of plague, and in keeping up an epidemic of the disease than any other agency. It is known that when once an epidemic of plague has established itself in a town or city, the houses become infective centres, apart from the persons and rats that live in the houses. There are thus three sources of infection; 1, The persons inhabiting the houses; 2, the rats on the premises; and 3, the infection in the houses. Setting aside the question of infection from person to person in houses, and from houses to persons residing in such houses, I desire to confine attention to rats as infective or propagating agents. I have just shown above that the rats in Mandvi were in very unequal numbers during the two first plague epidemics. The plague had certainly killed upwards of 50 per cent. during the first epidemic, probably 80 per cent. The same difference in numbers existed in all the districts of the city, and yet the human mortality in the two epidemics was nearly equal. This evidence goes to show that rats are not the chief or the essential agents in spreading and maintaining plague. I have seen plague cases occurring in houses during the second epidemic in various districts in which the rats had been killed off during the first epidemic. The infection in these houses came from the houses, and certainly not from living or infected rats. Again there is the evidence of the comparative plague mortality in the two kinds of districts: 1, the grain districts and 2, the non-grain districts. I submit from the official record of the district plague mortality of last year the following instructive figures, showing separately the number of plague deaths and the rate of mortality in the two kinds of districts:—

Grain Districts.	Plague Deaths.	Rate of Mortality per 1,000.
Mandvie	834	8·95
Umerkhari	259	4·93
Dongri	267	8·80
Market	182	4·06
Non-Grain Districts.		
Parel	603	20·98
Sion	469	23·46
Sewri	122	26·12
Mahim	666	35·99

The table shows the non-rat districts to have had a very much higher plague mortality than the rat districts, thus adding to the proof that, whether dead or alive, rats certainly exercise very little if any influence on the spread of plague or on its mortality. One more item of evidence may be offered in connection with the spread of plague by rats. This evidence is derived from experience in our wet-docks. The docks were filled with ships during both our plague epidemics. During these epidemics the usual interchange of rats between the docks and the shore continued as formely, and that the interchange should be considerable and not rare or occasional may be inferred from the fact that the great rat infested granaries of the city are situated immediately in front of the docks and at no great distance from them. When the question is asked, "How were the ships in the docks affected by the rats on board?" The replay is, "The rats carried no infection to the crews of these ships." As far as I know, if infection reached the ships at all, that infection was brought there by persons infected in the town and was not carried on board by rats. It is indeed a remarkable fact that while plague raged all over the Mandvi district, the crews of the ships in the docks remained uninfected during both epidemics while the distance between the shore residents and the ships was well within striking distance of the infection. It may be mentioned that the crews of the ships in the docks were largely composed of Mahomedans and Portuguese, classes very susceptible to plague infection, and not wholly of Europeans or immune persons. As rats do not desert houses during a plague epidemic on account of the disease they do not carry the plague from house to house or from district to district. The only influence they exercise on plague may come from their power to increase or intensify the infection existing in the houses by their excretions during the period of infection or by their bodies after death. The proofs of this power of infection by rats or the power of rats to carry and spread infection are yet wanting. It is known however that plague may continue in active evidence as well without rats as with them. Rats are not an essential factor in a plague epidemic, hence when we hear that somebody has killed a thousand or ten thousand rats the reduction is no proof that plague has been diminished to that extent. The rate of plague mortality seems to depend upon and to be influenced by—1, race susceptibility; 2, poverty; 3, insanitary dwellings; 4, general insanitary conditions, and 5, the mental state of the people including interference with their social life and with their business.

(*To be continued.*)

THE MURDER OF THE DRAVIDS AND THE PRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—I see you have published a translation of an article on Dravid's claim for the second half of the reward offered by Government for the detection and conviction of the murderers of Messrs. Rand and Ayerst. The translator condenses what is said, and in doing so conveys an impression that the article was intended to hold the Dravids up to public obloquy. The passage rendered "Dravid has to account for his misdeeds" is as follows in the original Mahratti:—"But as the Government are required to give an explanation to Dravid for their action (in cutting down his reward to half) so it should not be forgotten that they are also bound to satisfy their subjects as well as all thoughtful men how Dravid's information materially contributed to the detection of the perpetrators of the Jubilee crime."

The words as given seem to suggest that Dravid should be made amenable for his crime; which was not at all what the writer meant or said. The sentence in which Dravid's words are quoted "that people readily believed he was a traitor" is misleading when re-translated into English, when the word traitor is given as "cut-throat" That phrase in Mahratti has the same sense as the English word traitor; it does not mean murderer, or a man who cuts another man's throat. It is necessary to correct these inaccuracies as it might be thought that the murder of the Dravids on Wednesday was instigated or suggested by the *Kesari*, published on Tuesday. There was no suggestion of the kind in the article, which simply asked for a statement as to the real value of Dravid's information. The murders were evidently planned with deliberation, disguises having been provided and all arrangements carefully made to effect the crime under favourable conditions; that could not have been done in a few hours. If newspaper utterances had anything to do with the matter, Dravid's callous letter published a week before in certain Bombay papers, was only too well calculated to arouse murderous passions in the breasts of his immediate neighbours. I am glad to see that you scout the idea that all Poona is responsible for these crimes.—

Yours, &c., CORRECTION.

NOTES FROM AHMEDABAD.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

FEB. 13.

THE first session case that was tried by Mr. Moriarity, the sessions Judge, with the aid of a jury, last week, was that of one Moti Hira a Koli of the village of Vithalpura in the taluka of Viramgaum. The accused was charged with the double murder of a boy and a girl of the age of seven and eight respectively. The case for the prosecution was conducted by Mr. Khursedji Nasarwanji Wadia, the Government prosecutor, and for the defence, by Mr. H. B. Gandevia, pleader. The evidence for the prosecution showed that Kovia the boy and Jethi the girl were missed one day in November last by their parents. The matter was reported to the police patel of Vithlapur who sent people in the different neighbouring villages in the search of the children. The patel subsequently got the information that the day before the seach the children were last seen in the compay of the accused. Attempts were made to find the accused, but he was not at home. It appeared that the accused arrived the next day in the village when he was called by the patel and questioned as to the whereabouts of the children. He fully confessed his crime and gave up the silver ornaments that were concealed in his house, and which belonged to the children. Afterwards he pointed out the spots where the children were buried and also gave up the chothes worn by them. On the 7th of November he made a full confession before the third class magistrate of Viramgaum, and the next day before the committing magistrate, Khan Bahadhur Dadabhai Nasurwanji Nanawatty. The accused is only sixteen years of age. While tried before the Sessions judge, he retracted both the confessions and alleged maltreatment by the police. The medical evidence showed that death in both cases was caused by strangulation, and there pointed cuts on the feet of the girl, which were caused by a instrument in order to extract the ornaments put upon them. The prosecution presented four witnesses to show that the children, while alive, were last seen in the company of the accused. However, it seemed that the witnesses could not hold their ground firmly. As there were confessions and the discovery of the property and corpses by the accused only, the majority of the jurors returned a verdict of not guilty. The learned judge, having differed from the verdict of the jury, referred the case to the High Court.

Last fortnight was specially marked by the advent of notable officers of the Presidency. Surgeon General Bainbridge had been here on circuit to see the dispensaries and hospitals of the city. Mr. J. E. Down, the Inspector General of Police, inspected the police lines and the Central Jail, with the Collector and the Superintendent of Police. Then Lieutenant General Low arrived here to examine the military lines of the cantonment. Mr. Maxwell, the Post Master General, was on his annual tour for the examination of post offices. The Lord Bishop, the Right Rev. McArthur and Mrs. McArthur are now in our midst. They were entertained by Khan Bahadhur and Mrs. Jehangir Pestonji Vakil at an afternoon party to-day.

Sir Theodore Fry Bart., M.P., and five other European tourists, were invited by Khan Bahadhur Jehangir Pestonji Vakil at an evening party on Thursday last, when there was a large gathering of Europeans and Natives on the occasion.

The plague commission, that sat here a fortnight ago, examined Mr. Silcock the Revenue Commissioner, Dr. Bartholomeuz, the Civil Surgeon, Mr. F. X. De Souza, the Assistant Collector of Kaira, Dr. Maganlal M. Modi, the late Civil Surgeon of Kaira, and Khan Bahadur Bamonji Eduji Modi, the District Deputy Collector of Kaira. As there was no plague in Ahmedabad, the medical men of the city were not brought before the commission for examination.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Plague. Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	5	1	7
B Mandvi, Chuckla, Oomerkhadi and Dongri	19	7	36
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Fanaswady, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao and Kumbarwada	27	13	45
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar and Malauxmi	14	6	17
E Mazagon, Tarwady, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	31	17	58
F Parel, Sewree and Sion	12	5	11
G Mahim and Worli	8	4	19
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	54	66
Total	116	107	259
Total plague deaths to date	34,619	30,626	
Same date last year	119	117	280

ALLEGED DHATURA-POISONING.

MR. FURDOONJI COWASJI DINSHAW PETIT, aged about twenty-five years, son-in-law of Mr. Bomanji Dinshaw Petit, residing at Warden Road, Malabar Hill, drank a quantity of milk from a cup, on Saturday morning. He felt the taste a little bitter, and immediately spat it out, leaving the remaining milk in the cup. The young gentleman, however, did not suspect any foul play, and proceeded to his office in the Fort as usual. But later in the afternoon he suffered from heaviness in the head and giddiness and drowsiness. The milk which was left in the cup in the morning, was mixed with some other milk in the afternoon and made into custard and pudding, which was taken in the evening by his mother, Avabai and sister, Mithibai. About a quarter of an hour after, the mother became ill, and the same thing happened to the daughter about an hour after. Both the ladies showed similar symptoms as her son Fardoonji had during the day. Dr. Eduiji Nusserwanji was summoned, and he treated both the ladies. He was of opinion that they were suffering from effects of dhatura-poisoning. Superintendent MacDermott was informed, and that officer took charge of the remains of the custard and pudding, and the matter is being investigated.

A VOICE FROM THE BENCH.

SERIOUS REFLECTIONS UPON A MAGISTRATE.

IN reference to one of the recent somewhat numerous coolie cases in Ceylon, Sir Wilfred Bonser, the Chief Justice, made some serious reflections from the Bench on Thursday last.

A short time ago we reported that Mr. H. F. Freeman, the Police Magistrate of the Gampola district, had been called upon to judge a case in which a young planting assistant prosecuted three coolies for assault. It was admitted in the evidence for the prosecution that the planting assistant was in the habit of assaulting the coolies, and that in the particular case under inquiry he had been the first to use his hands. However, the magistrate doled out some pretty severe sentences. The first coolie was sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment, and to receive 15 lashes; the second to three months' rigorous imprisonment; and the third accused to a term of six weeks' rigorous imprisonment, and to receive 15 lashes.

Against this conviction and sentence the accused appealed, and the appeal came up before the Chief Justice on Thursday.

The Chief Justice criticised the magistrate severely. He complained that the magirtrate had issued warrants where a summons would have served, and when counsel proposed to read the magistrate's judgment, the Chief Justice remarked that he would not trouble counsel, and added that he thought the magistrate was "unfit to exercise any sort of judicial functions." The Chief Justice remarked that if people ill-treated coolies they must expect to be similarly treated, but nevertheless he deferred his judgment. The young planter's counsel, in reference to this last remark expressed the hope that the Chief Justice would not lay down in the case that an assault by a planter on his coolies made an assault by the coolies on the planter justifiable matter.

A SPLENDID SUCCESS.

IF anyone had said a year ago that thousands of copies of the expensive ninth edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* could be sold in Great Britain within a few months, we should have been regarded more as a dreamer than as a judge of the book trade. The enterprise, business ability, and advertising skill and boldness of the proprietors of The "Times"—singularly enough the most conservative of newspapers in adopting modern journalistic customs—however, has made what seemed an impossible thing a reality, and a great literary work that hitherto has only been found in the homes of the wealty, or on the shelves of public libraries and similar institutions, has found its way into the cottage of the artisan, the book-case of the clerk, and the solitary apartment of the bachelor student. The manner in which this has been brought about is no less creditable to the keen commercial instincts of the proprietor of the Times than to their faith in the public, and their enterprise in embarking on an undertaking that had in it great elements of risk and financial loss. Unlike many articles sold on the instalment principle, "The Times" not only offered the Encyclopœdia Britannica at much less than the price charged to the original subscribers to the work, and at much less than it could be bought for in any booksellers's but they offered a reprint in every particular as complete, and as handsome in appearance, in every respect as when first issued by the publishers. The scheme deserved to succeed, and it has succeeded beyond every anticipation.

IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THUMB IMPRESSIONS AS EVIDENCE.

THE fifth meeting this session of the Imperial Legislative Council was held at Government House on Friday under the presidency of His Excellency Lord Curzon. The following Hon. Members were present:—

His Honor Sir John Woodburn, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, His Excellency General Sir W. S. A. Lockhart, Commander-in-Chief in India, the Hon. Sir J. Westland the Hon. Mr. M. D. Chalmers, the Hon. Major-General Sir E. H. H. Collen, the Hon. Sir A. C. Treror, the Hon. Mr. C. M. Rivaz, the Hon. Mr. Ananda Charlu, the Hon. Mr. J. J. D. LaTouche, the Hon. Rai Bahadur Pandit Suraj Kaul, the Hon. Mr. Chitnavis, the Hon. Mr. Allan Arthur, the Hon. Mr. P. M. Mehta, the Hon. Nawab Mumtaz-ud-daula Muhammad Faiyaz Ali Khan, the Hon. Mr. J. K. Spence, the Hon. Mr. G. Toynbee, the Hon. Mr. D. M. Smeaton, the Hon. Mr. J. D. Rees, and the Hon. Maharaja Rameshwara Singh Bahadur of Darbhunga.

INLAND STEAM VESSELS AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon. Sir James Westland presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to further amend the Inland Steam-vessels Act, 1884.

He said:—The Select Committee have proposed to amend the Bill in two points, both of which I noticed when I moved the appointment of the Select Committee. The first is the provision of authority to local Govenments to prescribe the carriage of accepted lights by vessels on inland waters on which steam vessels ply. These vessels are obviously a source of danger if they are not to carry proper lights, and it is desirable that power be given to compel them to use proper lights. The other point is the declaration for certificates of competency or service which are given by one local Government are to be current throughout India even in the territories of other local Governments. It will be observed that this provision is not made with reference to certificates of survey which are given to vessels. The certificates of survey which are given to vessels have reference to the particular route or the particular trade in which they are employed, and it will not be advisable to declare, for example, that a vessel which had passed a survey for purpose of traffic in the Irawady should be competent without further special examination to ply on the Brahmaputra.

CURRENCY NOTES AND BANK NOTES AMENDAENT BILL.

The Hon. Sir James Westland moved that the Bill to amend the law relating to the forgery of currency-notes and bank-notes be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon. Mr. Chalmers, the Hon. Mr. Rivaz, the Hon. Mr. La Touche, the Hon. Mr. Mehta, and the mover.

He said:—This is for the most part a purely legal question, that is to say, the existing penal provisions regarding forgery of currency-notes and oank-notes are not a sufficient protection to the public. There is a especial law in England relating to the class of offences, and we have adopted that law to the law of India, the Bill which is now before the Council being practically based on the English Statute.

The motion was put and agreed to.

INDIAN EVIDENCE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon. Mr. Chalmers moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to further amend the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, be taken into consideration.

He said:—In making this motion I need say but very little until I have heard any other Hon. Members who may have any remarks to make. As Hon. Members are aware the system of authenticating documents and identifying persons by means of what are known as finger impressions is now acknowledged to be the most trustworthy system which we possess for those purposes. Till very recently it was almost impossible to employ the system for identifying persons because of the difficulty of classifying or indexing the finger impressions which had been taken for the purpose of reference. This difficulty of reference has now been overcome by the laborious ingenuity of of Mr. Henry, the Inspector-General of Police in Bengal, and the Government now think that the time has come for giving legislative recognition to this system, and they propose by this Bill to give the Courts the same powers of receiving evidence concerning finger impressions and dealing with disputed finger impressions as they have in cases of disputed handwriting.

The Hon. Mr. Toynbee said:—I feel some doubt as to whether the words "finger impressions" used in this Bill will be legally held to include "thumb impressions." The history of the introduction of the use of finger and thumb impressions into the Registration department in Lower Bengal leads me to think that it would have been safer to have used the words "digital impressions," or to have added to section 3 of the Indian Evidence Act, I of 1872, the five words "finger impressions include thumb impressions," The system of taking finger prints was first tried in Bengal by Sir William Herschell when he was Magistrate and Collector of the Hughli District. After his retirement from the service, he recorded a note on the subject, and in 1892 sent it from Oxford to the Inspector-General of Registration. He, in April, 1893, recommended to the Government of Bengal the introduction of Sir William Herschell's system into the Registration offices in Calcutta and in the Districts of Hughli and the 24-Parganas. In may, 1893, Government accepted the above recommendations, and directed that every executant of a registered deed should make an impression of his first and third fingers, both on the deed itself and also in a register to be kept for the purpose. In March, 1894, the Inspector-General of Registration recommended that an impression of the right thumb should be taken, instead of impressions of the first and third fingers.

GOVERNMENT APPROVED OF THIS PROPOSED CHANGE

in April of the same year, but in the following April they substituted the left for the right thumb, and from that date to this only the impressions of the left thumb are used in the Registration Department. It seems to me, therefore, that if any Criminal Court should hold, in the absence of any definition of the words "finger impressions" that they do not include "thumb impressions" there is considerable risk of a failure of justice.

The Hon. Mr. Chalmers said:—The point raised by the Hon. Mr. Toynbee was suggested to the Select Committee from one or two quarters which I perhaps ought to notice. It was pointed out to us that that impression taken is often that of the thumb and not that of one of the four fingers and it was suggested to us that we should add an explanation to the effect that "finger impressions included thumb impressions." The Select Committee thought this unnecessary. We considered the point, and after consideration we came to the conclusion that such an objection surely could not be entertained by any Court. The system of these impressions, whether finger impressions or thumb impressions, are certainly popularly known as "finger impressions." They certainly are technically known as "finger impressions" and if you leave both the popular name and the technical name and

LOOK AT THE MATTER ETYMOLOGICALLY

you still find that "finger" in cludes "thumb." I took the trouble of going to the latest and most standard new English Dictionary—Murray's Dictionary of the English language—and if you look at the term "finger" you will find the entry as follows: "Finger: one of the five terminal members of the hand; in a restricted sense one of the four excluding the thumb," but the primary meaning is, one of the five members of the hand, that is to say, primarily the term "finger" includes "thumb" according to the Dictionary. I think as far as I remember that in Oriental languages the same rule prevails: the thumb is commonly known as the big finger. Of course I may be wrong but it is a matter as to which I should certainly follow the opinion of the Council. It smeed to us in the Select Committee that it would be almost a gratuitous to put in an explanation that "finger" includ, "thumb" as it would be to put in an explanation that "toe" includes "great toe." If Hon Members here who have very much more experience of Indian Courts than I have think that a Court could go wrong, it would be better, of course, to provide against an error of interpretation. I do not think, however, the slightest difficulty could possibly arise, and perhaps the discussion which has taken place in the Council to-day, calling attention to the matter, may be sufficient. I am entirely in the hands of the Council on the matter.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon. Mr. Chalmers moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

GLANDERS AND FARCY AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon. Mr. Rivaz moved that the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Glanders and Farcy be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon. Mr. Chalmers, the Hon. Major-General Sir Edwin Collen, the Hon. Pandit Suraj Kaul, the Hon Mr. Spence and the mover.

The motion was put and agreed to.

CARRIERS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon. Mr. Chalmers moved that the Bill to amend the law relating to Carriers be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon. Mr. Rivaz, the Hon. Mr. Allan Arthur, the Hon. Mr. Smeaton the Hon. Maharaja Bahadur of Durbhanga and the mover.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Friday, the 17th instant.

IN the semi-final of the Murray Football Cup, the Black Watch defeated the Scottish Borderers by two goals to nil. Jamieson, outside left forward, scored a goal in the first half, and Johnstone in the second half. It was an easy win.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

THE annual general meeting of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce will by held to-night, when the yearly report will be submitted. The following extracts will be found interesting:—

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

On 2nd March 1893, the Committee submitted to the Bombay Government, for transmission to the Government of India, the views of the Chamber respecting the present unsatisfactory position of the currency and the desirability of adequate consideration being devoted to the subject for the purpose of ascertaining the best measures to be taken to amend the existing critical state of financial pressure throughout the country. The Chamber stated that the Government of India in its despatch of 16th September to the Secretary of State re-affirmed its adherence to the policy of a gold standard, and expressed its belief that they wouldin theble near future succeed in establishing a sta exchange at 16d. per rupee by continuing the policy initiated in 1793; and further that, though the measures to be taken when the transition period was over had not been laid down, it was probable that the Indian Mints would be opened to gold, and gold coins would be made legal tender to an unlimited amount, silver rupees continuing also to be unlimited tender to an unlimited amount the ratio between the rupee and the goldcoins on tender being at the same time finally settled. There was no mention made in that despatch of any intention to guarantee the convertibility of the rupee into gold; but while it was admitted that the present system was in fact no system at all, the temporary continution of it was defended as accelerting the movement towards such a gold standard as that which existed in France and the United States. So far as the Chamber was aware, no further definite intimation of the intentions of Government had been made except in the speech of the Finance Minister on the 14th January (in the course of which he intimated that the steps to be taken for the establishment of a gold standard were under consideration. In view of the despatch of the 16th September and in the absence of any definite information as to the present intentions of Government, the Committee stated that the attempt to accumlate gold under the present system would, they believed, prove futile; and that even if it should succeed to any extent at all, it would do so only at the expense of the very greatest injury to trade, inasmuch as the system in question depended for its success on an artificial restriction of the currency, and that the maintenance of the value of the rupee at or near the level of 1s. 4d. could only be possible so long as the strain on the money market was maintained. The Chamber submitted that in the a sence of a gold currency the establishment of a gold standard for this country was only possible by means of an absolute and permanent guarantee on the part of Government of the exchan geability of rupees for gold at a fixed value. This was recognized by two at least of the eminent Financiers who sat on the Herschell Committee (Lords Farrer and Welby) as being the logical conclusion of the policy inicíated in 1893; and the experience gained since the Mints were closed afforded in the Chamber convincing evidence that nothing short of this would ensure the stability of exchange. The Committee of the Chamber were deeply impressed with a sesne of the gravity of such a step but they were convinced that the time had come when Goverement must in the interests if not even for the bare prervation of the trade of the country either completed ar reconsider the policy instituted in 1839. The Chamber therefore submitted that it was absolutely incumbent on Government to put the montary system of India on a sound basis, and that the only possible alternatives were either (1) the adoption of a gold standard based upon the convertibility of the rupee into gold, or (2) a return to the old silver standard. While fully recognising the advantages of this country of an effective gold standard as encouraging a free flow of capital from Europer for the development of the resources of India and as relieving the financial difficulties of Government, the Committee submitted that the whole question—involving, as it did, the prosperity of the agricultural population of this country, on which again the commerce of India and the financial stability of Government alike depended—was so complex that the Committee refained from expressing an opinion as to which of the said alternatives should be chosen. This position they assumed not from any desire to avoid responsibility in the matter, but from a convinction that the subject was too wide and many sided to be fully or satisfactsrily dealt with by them. Without therefore expressing an opinion as rto the wisdom of the conclusion arrived at by Government that the establishment of a gold standard who to the interest of this country the Committee considered that it was a matter for very serious consideration whether the maintenance of a gold standard was practically possible. They however deprecated any further merely experimental or transitional expedients and especially any further measures for the construction of the currency and considered it of the greatest importance that the next step taken by Government should be final and only adopted after the fullest and widest possible enquiry. They accordingly recommended that the whole question of the Indian currency and finance should be made the subject of another full and exhaustive enquiry of the same nature as that which was instituted before the Mints were closed. At the same time they suggested that the scope of the reference should be as wide as possible and that Goverument should not exclude from that reference the possibility of a return to the silver standard, provided that, with due regard to the financial responsibilities of Government, such a score might commend itself to the proposed Commission. For while fully recognizing that, the silver standard having been once abandoned, a return to it was beset by many difficulties, the Chamber still considered that no enquiry would complete or satisfactory which excluded it from consideration.

Later on publisity was given to the Government of India's despatch to the Secretary of State for India, dated 3rd March 1898; and lest it might be assumed that the arguments adduced by the Government of India in support of their proposals had in any way affected or modified the views expressed by Chamber in its communication of 2nd Marchthe the Committee in a further letter to the Government, under date of 16th June, stated that, far from supporting, as the Government of India anticipated, the measures for sestability of exchange proposed in their despatch, or believing that the adoption of those measures would have the effect of overcoming the distrust on the part of the public in the future of the rupee the Chamber was diametrically opposed to the views expressed in the despatch and to the principle on which the Government of India's proposals were based namelyi forced contraction of the currency. The Chamber could not but view with the gravest apprehension a proposal to melt down the existing currency until it became even at the most inactive time of trade inadequate for the ordinary requirements of the country and this in the expectation that gold would thereby be forced into circulation. Pointing out that the Herschell Committee in recommending that rupees should be given in exchange for gold at a fixed ratio relied upon this measure as "leaving the volume of rupees currency dependent on the wants of the people of India," the Committee submitted that the experience since gained, especially during the last five months, had shown that this provision for the expansion of the currency had been practically inoperative in spite of the great strain the money market had undergone, the reason being that as the ratio at which gold was exchangeable for rupees fixed the maximum gold value of the rupee while no guarantee was given of its maximum value, gold would never be tendered until all other possible means of finance had been exhausted. Further, that gold could only, if at all, be introduced into circulation under conditions of the money market which were ruinous to both foreign and internal commerce, and could only be retained in circulation so long as those conditions were maintained. The Committee in conclusion submitted that while the Government of India in the effort to force gold into circulation relied upon the exigencies of an expanding trade and a refusal of a sufficiency of the currency to which the country was accustomed, there was nothing more necessary for such expansion than a free and natural supply of currency regulated automatically by its varying requirements, and it seemed to the Chamber quite as likely that a contraction of trade would follow a contraction of the rupee currency as that the necessities of trade would compel the adoption of a currency to which the country which, in the opinion of the Chamber, was Chamber, was unsuited to its requirements.

PROPOSED PORT TRUST BRANCH LINE OF RAILWAY.

It will be remembered that this scheme came before the Chamber in 1895, and that the Committee, after consulting the members, reported fully on the project as then sketched out by the Trustees of the Port. After a lapse of three years the matter was again referred to the Chamber for a further expression of its views, the reference from the Bombay Government (dated 5th October 1898) being accompanied by a lengthy communication from the Hon'ble Mr. C. T. Burke, Chairman of the Port Trust, together with the correspondence which had passed in the interval between the Trustees and the authorities of the G. I. P. and B. B. and C. I. Railways; plans were also forwarded showing the general arrangement of the proposed line with sidings, godowns and stations. The present position of the scheme is described by the Chairman of the Trust as fol lows under date 7th September 1898:—

"It is proposed to take the branch line off from the G. I. P. Railway at Sion, to run direct through the Port Trust land at Sewri, Frere Estate, Tank Bunder and Mazagon properties, through both the Docks, and along the Mody Bay Bunders up to the western end of the Ballard Pier. The proposal also includes a connection with the B. B. & C. I. Railway at Mahim by a line crossing the G. I. P. Railway at Matunga. The total length of the line from Sion to the Mint is about 8 miles, and the B. B. & C. I branch, 1 1-3 miles. The total cost for a double line of rails throughout, including extensive sidings at the sorting yard at Waddala, and a more complete system of sidings both with the Docks and with the coal wharf at Tank Bunder, including all charges stations, buildings, &c., but excluding rolling stock has been estimated to cost Rs. 31 lakhs, the interest on which at 4 per cent, would amount to Rs. 1,24,000. The Trustees are strongly of opinion that the proposed line is necessary in the interests of trade, and sooner or later the demands of trade will necessitate its construction; they feel convinced that Government will agree in thinking that the interests of trade, the public, and the Port of Bombay are deserving of every consideration in this matter, and they believe that the branch line will benefit both railway companies quite as much as it will the Port, as by affording increased facilities for the convenient shipment of produce, it will in time bring an increase of trade both to the railways and the Port. The new line will also develop a most important suburb and make considerable areas of Government and private lands available for residential purposes, which now lie unoccupied for want of easy means of communication with the business parts of the city; will open up a large area for residential purposes and thus assist in relieving the congestion of population in the City of Bombay; it will also render available for purposes of trade Port Trust property on which in recent years large sums have been spent on reclamations and improvements. The construction of a new dock would as a matter of course be situated on the Mody Bay Estate to the south and immediately adjoining the Victoria Dock, and will absorb a considerable area of land now occupied by trade which it will be necessary to provide for elsewhere. It need hardly be explained that the land in the immediate neighbourhood of the Docks south of the G. I. P. Railway at Wari Bunder is so largely occupied, that it will soon be a matter of very serious concern to the Trustees what they are to do for space, and the only suitable land available is on their property to the north of the G.I.P. Railway, but this large are is literally cut off by the G.I.P Railway siding at Wari Bunder, and the Trustees feel confident that Government will fully appreciate this fact, and hope that they may be pleased to consider the properity of arranging for a transfer to the Port Trust of all that area of land now occupied, and only partially utilised by the G. I. P. Railway Company at Wari Bunder lying to the east of the Frere Road." An essential feature of the scheme was the proposal for the establishment at Mazagon of extensive godown accommodation for the Cotton and Grain trades, with rails alongside by which goods could be discharged without resort to cartage, or be forwarded with equal facility in wagons to the Docks.

Shortly after the appointment of a New Secretary in succession to the late Mr. Marshall, a Special Committee was constituted to examine and report upon the issues involved in the above proposals; and this Special Committee after a series of protracted discussions submitted to the General Committee their report in the form of a draft letter to Government which was approved and forwarded.

In this letter it was pointed out that the Port Trust scheme was presented for criticism as a "Project for cheapening the methods of dealing with Exports and Imports by improvement in the means of Railway Communication," and that the Chamber, while necessarily prepared to give unqualified welcome to any project really calculated to assure those benefits, and while recognising that the consummation of some such scheme as that presented would confer on the Port other advantages not set forth in the title alluded to, were constrained in the interests of the trade which would ultimately have to bear any loss that might be incurred, to scrutinize very closely the elements of success contained in the Port Trust proposals. And while every influence combined to bias the Chamber in favour of proposals emanating from the Port Trustees, the members of the former had reluctantly come to the conclusion that the scheme as set forth in the papers submitted, did not give assurance of the benefits declared in the title. It was pointed out in the first place that while the figures on which the Trustees founded their sanguine estimate of the cost and profits of the undertaking were, for purposes of calculation, taken on the most favourable basis possible, there was no guarantee that such figures would be maintained or even attempted in practice. And it seemed to the Chamber that while the Turstees' estimates were unduly optimistic the detailed criticism to which they had in certain quarters been subjected was in the main sound.

The fact that existing facilities for direct transmission of Imports were adequate and not fully taken advantage of, was cited in evidence of the probability that the scheme under consideration would exert no great influence in the development of that branch of trade, although the establishment of the proposed railway derort at Mazagon woul necessarily confer a benefit on imports of oil and timber, seeing that the storage for those goods was already situated at that point.

In regard to Export trade, it was submitted by the Chamber that one of its leading branches—that devoted to cotton—would not for many years be affected by the scheme, seeing that so many influences and interests combined to retain the cotton Trade at Colaba, Chief amongst such considerations were the comparative accessibility from the Fort, the existance of the Association's rooms at the present Cotton Green, the volume of capital invested in those presses by which the trade is now served and which would certainly be ruined by a transfer of the Cotton Green to mazagon: the thousand conditions and traditions of the trade which have grown up round the present arrangement and which could not be upset without inconvenience.

In conclusion, it was urged that a definite decision as to the prosecution or abandonment of the proposals should be taken as soon as possible, and it was recommended that in any case immediate steps should be taken as soon as possible, and it was recommended that in any case immediate step should be taken to perfect the reorganisation of the siding system in the docks and to place the existing railway goods yards in effectiee connection with the sidings so improved.

THE CITY OF BOMBAY IMPROVEMENS BILL.

which was introduced into the Bombay Legislative Council in February last, and received the careful attention of the Chamber. In addressing Government on the provisions of the proposed measure, the Committee confined their criticisms and suggestions to the Chapters embracing objects of the Trust, the constitution of the Board, its duties and powers, and such details as they had felt confident to discuss adequately. Dealing with Chapter II, Section 5, the Chamber supported the application made by the Bombay Millowners' Association for power to elect a representative on the Board in the same manner as the Chamber and the Port Trust are empowered to do.

To be continued.

A DEARTH OF OFFICERS.

IN consequence of the great loss in the commissioned ranks of the army lately in connection with the raising of a new regiments in Africa and elsewhere, and the recent extension of extra regimental appointments,—during the last year the number of secondings has increased by 20 per cent. Sandhurst will shortly send another batch of cadets into the army, in addition to the long list of first appointments just gazetted, but the instalment will be absorbed without making any appreciable difference in the deficiency of junior officers in either the cavalry or the infantry. The position of the army in this respect is without parallel in recent years. At no time, since the introduction of the competitive system, has entrance to the commissioned ranks been easier. To such an extent has the standard of qualification been relaxed that the profession is really open at the present moment to any educated youth of suitable age. Still, the door will have to be opened further if the deficiency of officers is to be made up. There are candidates in abundance, but even if a new code were adopted, it would necessarily take a year or two before the whole balance could be adjusted.

BOMBAY RACES.—2ND DAY.

WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, 1899.

THE NEW COMERS' PLATE.—Winner Rs. 200, 2nd Rs. 50, and 3rd Rs. 25.

For Arab Galloways landed since 1st August, 1899 14 hands to carry 9st. 7lbs. W. I.

PENALTIES.—Winner race value Rs. 180, once 4lbs., twice 7lbs., oftener 1st. Distance 6 furlongs.

1st Entry Rs. 10, to close 7 p.m., Friday, 17th February, 2nd Entry Rs. 20 to close 7 p.m., Monday, 20th February, and Rs. 5 extra if not struck out by 8 a.m., Tuesday, 21st February.

Terms—Prospectus, Bombay Races, 1899.

Eight Entries or Stewards reserve right to declare race void.

CECIL GRAY,
Secretary, W. I. T. C.

The following Races will be run at the 9th and 10th Extra Meetings on Saturday, 4th March, and Saturday, 11th March—

SATURDAY, 4TH MARCH, 1899.

AMATEUR PLATE.—Rs. 199, presented by H. E. Lord Sandhurst, G.C.I.E. For maiden Arab and C.-B. galloway's 13-3 and under and maiden ponies other classes, the property of Officers in the Army and Navy and Government Services and Members of the Byculla, Bombay, and Yacht Clubs. Weight—Arab and C.-B.'s 13-3 to carry 11st., other classes 13-2 to carry 11st. W. I.

PENALTIES.—Winner race value Rs. 50 and over, once 4 lbs., twice 7lbs., oftener 10lbs. Winner of races of Rs. 50 and over, of the aggregate value of Rs. 1,000, 5lbs. in addition to above penalties.

ALLOWANCES.—Galloways and ponies which have never started for a race of any description, 5 lbs., C.-B.'s, 7lbs. Distance 7 furlongs.

Entrance free, to close Tuesday, 28th February.

SATURDAY, 11TH MARCH, 1899.

THE LADY SANDHURST STAKES.—Rs. 199, presented by H. E. Lady Sandhurst. A handicap for galloways and ponies which ran in the Amateur Plate presented by H. E. Lord Sandhurst on 4th March, 1899. Distance 7 furlongs.

Entrance free, to close Tuesday, 7th March, 1899.

Terms for both above Races.—G. R.'s only. G. R.'s who have never won a race value Rs. 50 of any descript.on allowed 5lbs.

CONDITIONS.—Prospectus Extra Meetings, except where otherwise provided for.

CECIL GRAY,
Secretary, W. I. T. C.

HIGH COURT.—ORIGINAL SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE FULTON.)

A CONSIDERABLE CLAIM.

ROGER LAMING VS. THE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF RAILWAY SERVANTS.

The plaintiff, who described himself as a journalist, sued the defendants for Rs. 30,000 as damages for breach of contract. The plaintiff appeared in person; and Mr. Inverarity and Mr. Rivett-Carnac, instructed by Messrs. Ardeshir Hormusji and Dinshaw, appeared for the society.

The plaintiff, in continuing his address to the court, said that the documents put in showed there had been a distinct contract. The witness, Williamson, who was jeered by the defendants, had admitted as much. The branch secretaries had, by the nature of their replies to the circulars that had been sent out, admitted that an agreement was in force between plaintiff and the company. The prospectus had been sent out at the expense of the company and with the approval of the trustees and directors. Williamson's evidence showed that, as treasurer of the society he was not conversant of what was being done in regard to the paper and its funds. Plaintiff complained that Mr. Clarkson, the vice-president of the society, had not been called. He refuted the contention of the defence that he had instituted the suit with the object of compelling the defendants to pay him a certain amount of money.

His lordship took time to consider this decision until Monday. He told the plaintiff to pay in his court fees at once.

Plaintiff said he would do so.

(Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE RUSSELL.)

THE TIVOLI THEATRE.

JAMSETJEE EDALJEE MODY VS. VITHALDAS KHETSEY AND OTHERS

His LORDSHIP delivered judgment in this suit, in which the plaintiff claimed to recover Rs. 10,119-0-4 with interest and costs. In default of payment he claimed that the property known as the Tivoli Theatre, together with all fixtures, furniture, etc., may be sold by the court and the sale proceeds applied in satisfaction of his claim, and that the defendants, Cooverji Navroji Contractor and Mr. C. A. Turner, the official Assignee of the estate and effects of Cooverji Contractor, an insolvent, may be ordered to pay to the plaintiff any balance that may remain due to him. Mr. Branson and Mr. Lowndes, instructed by Messrs. Mansukhlal, Damodher and Jamsetji, appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Scott and Mr. D. D. Daver, instructed by Mr. J. C. Cama, appeared for the first defendant. The other defendants did not appear to defend the suit.

Mr. Justice Russell, in delivering judgment, stated the facts as to the mortgages and the transfer of the property and reviewed the evidence at some length. He passed a decree for Rs. 7,841-8-4 against the first defendant personally and against his estate with interest from September 1898 till payment; and, in default, ordered the property known as the Tivoli Theatre to be sold within three months. As against the second and third defendants, his lordship passed a decree for Rs. 2,240-9-0 with interest from 28th September 1898 till payment; and in default, ordered the moveable property, furniture, etc., of the property to be sold within three months. First defendant to pay plaintiff's costs, including costs reserved. Receiver to continue.

ATTEMPTED BLACKMAILING.

SMALL CAUSES COURT.

(Before Mr. C. W. CHITTY, Chief Judge.)

MULTANI ASSARAM GUNESHAMDAS VS. PATEL KISHORE MOTI AND ANOTHER.

Mr. ROBERTSON, barrister-at-law, instructed by Mr. Cowasji B. Setna, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Rivett-Carnac, barrister-at-law, instructed by Mr. Koregaunker, pleader, represented the defendants.

The plaintiff, who is a Multani money-lender, sought to recover from the defendants, who are father and son, the sum of Rs. 1,918, together with court costs, being the balance of purchase money of seven gold fingerrings set with emeralds and sold and delivered by the plaintiff to the two defendants on the 9th September last for Rs. 2,500. The sale was effected through a broker, named Chunilal Fakirchund, when a receipt purporting to be a promissory note was passed by the defendants evincing the transaction.

The defendants, in their defence, denied all knowledge of the plaintiff and the transaction, stating that the document, purporting to be the promissory note, which had been alleged to have been passed by them, was a forgery. The first defendant also denied that he ever put any mark or signature on the document or authorised his son, the second defendant, to sign on his behalf. They also denied having paid Rs. 600 on the account alleged by the plaintiff in his plaint. They denied the purchase of the finger-rings or that they were indebted to the plaintiff on the amount claimed or any part thereof.

The evidence adduced on behalf of both the parties was then recorded. His honour, in giving the decision of the court, said that about a week after the sale, it was alleged that the defendants paid the plaintiff Rs. 600 on account. The plaintiff had adduced no evidence to prove the alleged sale of the rings to the defendants save and except the evidence of the broker, Chunilal Fakirchund, who did not in the least clear out the story of the plaintiff. On the contrary, his evidence went to show that the rings were never sold to the present defendants, but to a Marwari, who gave his name as Kishore Moti at a club at Dhobie Talao. When the plaintiff saw that he had no direct evidence to prove the sale he tried to push up his claim by showing that there were overtures for settlement. That was a practice often resorted to in these courts by persons who found little or no direct evidence to support their case. In order to prove the settlement he called several witnesses of suspicious character, upon whom no reliance could be placed. The prime movers in this case appeared to be the witnesses, Nanabhoy Dinshawji, a convict who was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for receiving stolen goods, and B. Framji, a law tout, against whom several civil decrees were standing. One thing which was worth mentioning in the case was that most of the witnesses who were brought in court were ready, without being asked, to give the exact amount of the several currency notes making up Rs. 700 which were alleged to have been paid by the defendants at the interview for settlement. Besides, it was difficult to believe that the plaintiff would not accept the sum of Rs. 700 as part payment of the claim, if at all offered by the defendants. Another witness, Hargovan, had spoken of the interview as having taken place at his own house between the plaintiff, Nanabhoy Dinshawji, and the defendants, but as this witness had admitted that he was indebted to Nanabhoy, it appeared to the court, that he was merely a tool in the hands of his creditor, Nanabhoy, and was brought to give evidence under his influence. As for the documentary proof, the court observed, the plaintiff produced a promissory note, alleged to have been passed by the defendants at the time of the sale. This document bore the signatures of the first defendant and his mark, and the explanation given of this by the plaintiff was not at all satisfactory, and it was improbable that the first defendant would make both his mark as well as his signature. The witness Nanabhoy deliberately produced two copies of the promissory note, which he at first said were pinned on to the summons in this case, but having had a night to think over, he altered the story that they were not attached to the summons. It was impossible that such copies could have been furnished along with the summons from this court, as he wanted the court to believe. His evidence was therefore worth less and thoroughly unreliable. The plaintiff produced a book showing an entry of the alleged transaction. This book was wholly written in pencil, and the court had no doubt that such books could be manufactured in a day before the suit. Finally, his Honour observed that the conduct of the case showed that it was convinced that this was nothing but an attempt at blackmailing, and had no hesitation in dismissing the suit. The court awarded Rs. 300 as counsel's costs, and Rs. 300 as compensation to the plaintiff, with immediate execution.

After the judgment was delivered, Mr. Rivett-Carnac, on behalf of the defendants, applied for sanction to prosecute the plaintiff and some of his witnesses.

The Chief Judge told him to renew the application on some other day.

MADRAS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

FINALS.

The final match in the Madras Football Tournament was played on Monday before large and interested gathering. The Cheshire from Secunderabad met the West Ridings from Bangalor. The game was comparatively uninteresting as the West Ridings after their many matches were stale and off play, the game being slow in the extreme. The Cheshire played well and scored a goal within the first few minutes and kept up the attack for the first half, but in the second half they too fell off and the game concluded very lamely, the Cheshires being winners by one goal to love. This is the second time they have won the cup, having secured it before in 1897. Brigadier General Brooke Anderson, Commanding the Madras District, presented the cup and gold badges to the winners and silver badges to the runners up.

THE KOWLOON TERRITORY.

A GAME OF BLUFF.

It appears that since the signing of the Convention granting the extension of the Kowloon boundaries the people resident in the territory to be taken over by the British Government have been somewhat unsettled owing to the delay of the British in declaring sovereignty over the land. It is supposed by some of the people that they have been taken under the protecting authority of the British, while others maintain they are still under the control of the Chinese authorities. This most unsatisfactory state of affairs has afforded scope for the prosecution of much roguery by unscrupulous Chinese. A case has just been brought to our notice where a farmer was grievously victimised by an impostor who represented himself to be the authorized agent of the British Government which had taken over the control of the territory.

Some time last year a certain landholder in the San On district offended the authorities in some way, and as a consequence his land was confiscated by the Viceroy. This land was shortly afterwards sold to another party, who planted crops, and erected build ings, etc., for his stock. Everything went well for a time. The man whose property was confiscated continued farming his other property and nursing his wrath against the Chinese authorities. At last an opportunity was afforded him of regaining his confiscated property by an atrocious piece of bluff and the farmer who bought the land from the Chinese authorities and improved it at great cost, was turned out without a cent of compensation. On a certain Sunday in November last, a launch party landed at Dneep Bay and had a picnic on the property in question, somewhere near San On. Some of the party shot over the ground, and the other walked to a farm house and conversed with the farmer. The party thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and returned to Hongkong never thinking that their stay on shore would lead to trouble. Shortly after the departure of the picnic party the former owner of the property arrived at the head of a gang of armed men, and intimated that the launch party had been sent by the Hongkong Government to inform him that the British had taken over the territory and that as a reward for services rendered he was to take possession of the portion of his property which had been confiscated by the Chinese authorities. The armed band cut down all the crops and drove off the stock, taking away with them and damaging property to the extent of dols. 10,000. The farmer, believing the men were acting under orders from the British Government, offered no resistance, and left for Hongkong. It was not until he had told his story to friends in the Colony and was informed that the territory was still under Chinese control, that the realized how cruelly he had been bluffed. In company with two Eurasians the China-man returned and reported the affair to the District Mandarin. The Mandarin caused two men to be arrested, but the real delinquent, the crafty landowner is still in possession of the land, and there appears to be little hope of the farmer receiving redress.—*China Mail.*

THE DEFENCES OF CHINA.

TESTING THE GUNS AT FOOCHOW.

Two guns by Krupp; calibre, 28 centimetres (about 11 inches); weight 50 tons. Weight of projectile, 760 lbs. Weight of powder, 352 lbs. These guns are mounted, en barbette, in the Kimpai Forts and have an all round fire.

Over two years ago, these guns were fired (by order of the General then in charge) with a full charge of Chinese cracker powder, made up to imitate the the proper prismatic powder. The first round fired so strained the gun that the breech could not be opened. Instead of taking warning by this, the General ordered the second gun to be fired. The result was that the gun burst, blowing the entire breech, weighing about 4½ tons, to the rear, killing some 20 soldiers. The General, of course, tried to make out that the guns were made of inferior metal, etc. etc., but an investigation proved that the steel was really of the very highest quality, and the cause of the bursting entirely due to the use of the aforesaid Chinese cracker powder. Several experts (principally German) examined these guns, and pronounced them both utterly ruined. The Chinese, however, could not realise that the unburst gun could be quite useless so they requested the Shanghai Arsenal to send Mr. Cornish to examine these guns, and he was desired to report on the possibility of repairing them. His report fully endorsed those already given by other experts, but he undertook to make the guns so that they could be fired, but gave no guarantee that they would not burst on account of the severe strain to which they had been subjected. The guns were shipped to Shanghai and duly repaired, by having a screw breech made with an interrupted screw some what on the Armstrong principle.

On Tuesday, 10th Jan., inst., both guns were fired, each with two full charges of 352 pounds brown prismatic powder and steel shot each weighing 760 pounds. The target selected was a small white rock on the 'West-Brothers' Island 4,900 yards distant. The first round from each gun made good practice; they were directed by Mr. Cornish and Mr. Hekman (who was representing Krupp's interest). The second shots fired by native gunners did not make such good shooting, both falling somewhat short of the target. Owing to the uncertainly that existed as to the strength of the guns, they were fired by electricity. The Europeans present were Captain Slade, of the Algerine; Mr. Fraser, H. B. M. Consul; Mr. Graham of Jardine, Matheson & Co.; Mr. Hekman of the Chinese Cruiser Hai Yung; and Mr. Curnish. The Officials representing the Viceroy and the General were witnesses of the firing from a distance. When everything was safely over, they hastenedd to the Fort to join with the foreigners present in congratulating Mr. Cornish on the success of the firing.—"Echo."

THE YANGTZE VALLEY.

LIKELY TO SLIP AWAY FROM US.

Mr. A. R. COLQUHOUN writes from Kuichoufu on the Upper Yangtze, that unless we assert our right to maintain order in the Yangtze Valley, which by every right we claim as our sphere of influence, that too will slip away from us as the north of China has done is doing. The policy in which we are joining at Peking is to weaken the authority of the Provincial Governments, and favour the concentration of all power in the hands of the Manchus at Peking, which means in the hands of Russia. For this reason we (*N.-C. Daily News*) regret the withdrawal of the "Hermione" from Nanking as her presence there tended to strengthen the hands of Viceroy Liu. Our position is becoming more and more precarious, and we want a Kitchener or a Noel with a free hand to straighten things out. There is little doubt that serious trouble may be anticipated in this Valley unless we stiffen up the Viceroys, and the public at home should understand that chaos in China may suit every other Power but ourselves and the United States. Lord Salisbury seems to be relying on some vague promise from Germany that she will not interfere with us in the Valley, and probably our Foreign Minister will endeavour, when Parliament meets, by some such assurance to quiet the public at home, unless the China party in the Commons are on the alert.

It is no longer a question, says Mr. Colquhoun, whether the proposed railway connecting Burma with the Yangtze through Yunnan will pay; it must be made, and as soon as possible for the protection of our sphere of influence. Preparations should be made also for continuing it to the tungting Lake and to Hankow; so as to put the future Chicago of China —Shanghai being the New York—in railway connection with Burma. Unless everything possible is done to strengthen our moral hold on the Yangtze Valley we may by and by find ourselves edged out of China altogether.

SALES OF LAND EXTRAORDINARY.

ESTATES FOR FOUR ANNAS!

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—From a supplement to the *District Gazette* of Tanjore, dated the 20th January, 1899, it is seen that 9·35 acres of land, which belongad to a pagoda, or a place of Hindu worship, assessed at Rs. 14, was sold the other day for the recovery of arrears of revenue in a public auction for Rs. 125. The land appears to be a religious trust property, and its alienation for the recovery of the arrears of Government appears to be unjust, and it is a pity that the revenue authorities had not had recourse to other means mentioned in Act 11. of 1864 for the realisation of the Government revenue. It is strange that the Trustees and the Pagoda Committee, to whose care the trust had been entrusted, suffered it to be thus sold in public auction. A piece of land measuring acres 5·03, assessed at Rs. 20-2, is stated to have been sold for Rs. 10-8! Another piece of similar extent, assessed at Rs. 22-12, was sold for Rs. 2! Again, another plot of wet land, measuring 10·48 acres, assessed at Rs. 47-3, was sold for Rs. 55-1! Another piece of land, the extent of which was acres 3·07, assessed at Rs. 13-13, was sold for Rs. 5. Nine pieces of lands, measuring acres 4·12, assessed at Rs. 10·3, nobody would purchase, and the Government bought them for one anna a lot. Such is the value of land in Tanjore, "The Garden of Southern India."

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MILITARY AND NAVAL NOTES.

The enthusiasm which has been aroused in France by the successful trials of the new submarine boat, the "Gustave Zede," will hardly find an echo on this side of the Channel, where, in regard to their offensive weapons, the people are much more inclined to leave details in the hands of the qualified authorities. It is perhaps, just as well, however, to point out that, as regards these trials, they neither teach us anything new, nor do they in the slightest degree affect the part which submarine craft may possibly play in naval warfare. That which has now been done in France had previously been done in the United States, in Spain, and even in this country. Some twelve years ago Mr. Nordenfelt exhibited a boat at Southampton which performed all the feats now performed by the "Gustave Zede". He did more, because he led the way in demonstrating that if submarine warfare was to become possible, it must be by means of a vessel generally navigable above water, but capable of being submerged for a short period. Moreover, and this was a very important part of his scheme, he made it clear that if anything went wrong with his boat, it must come to the top of the water, and thus afford an opportunity for the crew to escape, wheres in all previous boats once they had become submerged they must have gone to the bottom of their machinery failed them. It was the advent of his boat also which gave the keynote the system of tactics now so much vaunted in connection with the "Gustave Zede" and the submarine vessels which have been tried elsewhere.

There are two reasons generally put forward in support of the supposed necessity of sending naval officers to sea at the juveuile age which obtains at present in the British Navy. . . . . If it is put forward that they cannot learn their profession if they do not start young, it must be answered that they never do learn it under the present system until they have quitted that system, and that the present naval officer's education as a naval officer has in most cases begun when he left college and went to sea as a sub-lieutenant or junior lieutenat for the first time with any responsibility. . . . . We are told that it is necessary for them to go to sea thus young so that they may learn habits of command, and the methods of managing men. This they do to a certain extent, but not so much as may be supposed for the following reasons. They do not learn habits of command, because as a rule in ship which carry midshipmen the boats' crews and men they have to deal with are halftrained young seamen, who do not obey with that alacrity which would teach a young officer the proper habits necessary to discipline. The fact also of having young officers who are to all intents and purposes "mere children" is subversive of disapline on account of their not having sufficient experience to guide them. The midsh pmen are a connecting link between men and officers, and a link which weakens the position of the latter. The men come under officers who cannot, from their youth, behave as such. From the man's point of view, he is told that a midshipman, or naval cadet, is an officer, he is to treat him as such, and heavy penalties are laid down for him should he not treat him with respect or disobey his orders. The youngster must frequently make mistakes in his orders, from inexperience, and the man can hardly be expected to treat a frolicsome schoolboy as a responsible person, yet he gets heavily punished if he does not.—"United Servive Gazette."

The debate on the first reading of the Army Bill was opened in the Reichstag on the 13th inst. The bill contemplates an increase in the strength of the Army on a peace footing which, if non-commissioned officers be included, will amount to 26,576 men, or without the necessary complement of non-commissioned officers to 23,277 men. The increase is to take place between October 1, 1899, and the close of the financial year 1902. The strength attained in 1902, is to remain the standard for the peace footing till 1904. Like its predecessor of 1893, the bill is in form a quinquennate; that is to say, it proposes to determine in advance the peace establishment of the Army for a period of five years. But, is the Prussian Minister of War, General von Gosseri said, on introducing the measure, it constitutes a new departure, inasmuch as after the pattern of last year's sexennate for the Navy it proposes to make the increase in the Army gradual, and to spread it over a number of years, instead of asking the Reichstag to vote the cost of the whole increase at once. In the view of the War Minister the new plan has the advantage of avoiding the infliction of a sudden strain upon the Imperial finances.

The War Minister explained the motives which had actuated the Government in framing the measure. The wars of recent years had taught the great lesson that everthing favoured the side which had most carefully and longest prepared for war and had kept pace with the developments of modern science in its armament. He referred particularly to the wars between China and Japan, and between the United States and Spain, and also to the operations of the Anglo-Egyptian forces in the Soudan. With regard to the institution of three new army corps, the War Minister explained that this was essentially a question of effective, organisation. It had become clear that, in the event of war, the armed strength of the country would have to be divided into small armies and army corps. Now they had several army corps which were excessively strong, and he proceeded to justify in detail the new organisations and their territorial assignment for strategic and administrative reasons, to Bavaria, Saxony, and Hesse-Darmstadt. He next defended the proposed increase in Prussian cavalry which had remained stationary in point of numerical strength for thirty years. He strongly opposed the idea of some few theorists that the importance of cavalry in modern warfare had diminished.

Turning to the contemplated increase in the artillery tactics had undergone a great change since the time of Napoleon, whose plan was to keep masses of artillery in reserve to decide a doubtful battle. Nowadays it was imperative that the artillery should play an effective an extensive part in the combat from the very beginning, and that it should in all cases form, as it were, the "skeleton" of the line of battle from the outset. To be effective in this fashion, the artillery must have a thorough and serviceable organisation, for they could not trust to improvisations at the eleventh hour. He defended the establishment of the howitzer batteries proposed in the bill. Their present artillery had a flat trajectory, and was intended to sweep the whole field of batle; but where the enemy sought cover from artillery fire it was necessary to have the howitzers, with their curved trajectory, in order to seek him out, a task which would give the guns with flat trajectory too much trouble.

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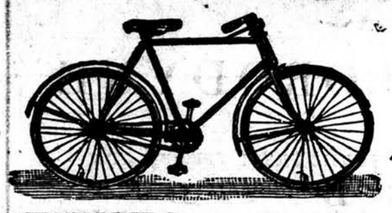

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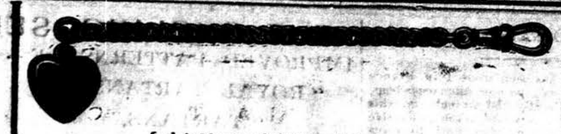

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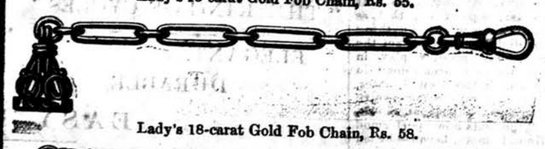

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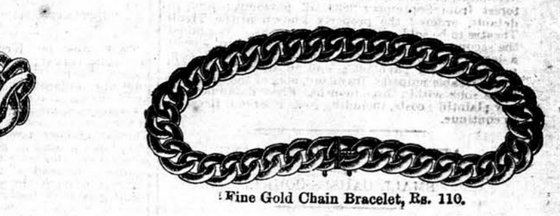

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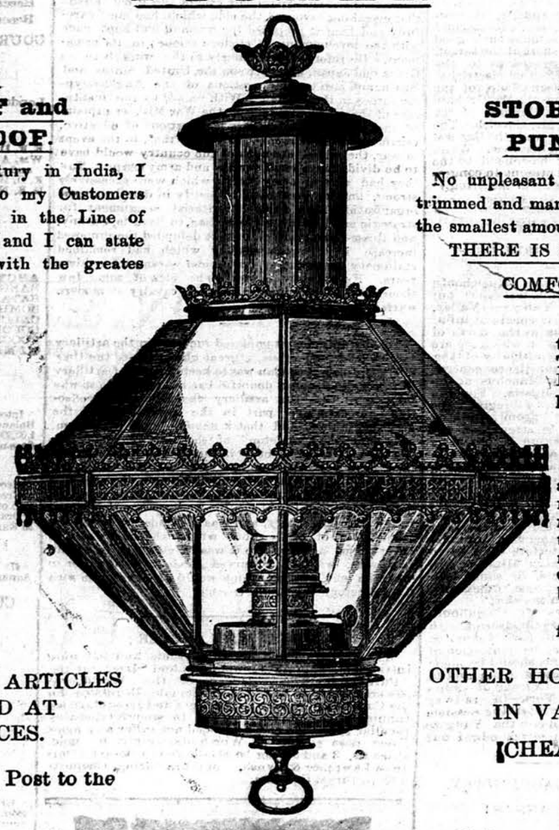

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AGENTS.—LONDON: GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; Messrs. KEY MER & Co., 2, Whitefriars Street, London, E.C.—Paris: Messrs. GALIGNANI & Co., Publ. Rehem, Rue de Rivoli.—CALCUTTA: Messrs. THACKER SPINK & Co.